



Introduction

1. Name: Sterling HAYDEN [aka Capt. John Hamilton]
[complete file]
2. Comment on contents of file:
 1. As an established screen actor, Hayden left the Marine Corps Reserve to join the OSS anonymously as “John Hamilton”.
 2. His expertise as a mariner & a sailor led to his training in Special Operations.
 3. He conducted a series of harrowing missions in Greece, Italy & Yugoslavia
 4. Hayden wrote a lengthy narrative that infighting between British & American officers was undermining the mission.
 5. Hayden, although decorated several times – including a Silver Star - generally maintained his anonymity during the war.

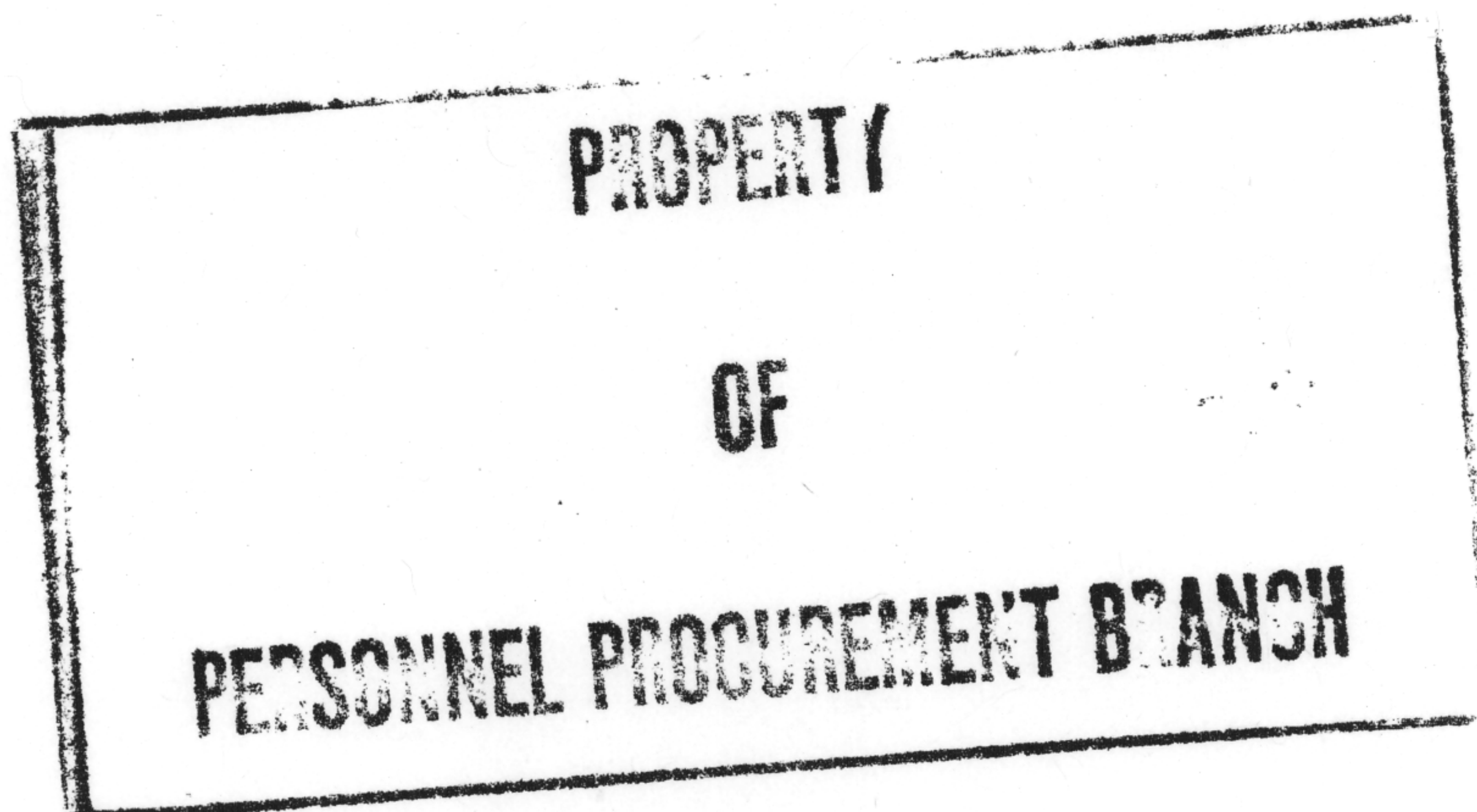
File citation: RG 226, Records of the Office of Strategic Services
Entry 224: OSS Personnel Files
Box #: 308 & 320

Related records: Most of his files are in box 108 under “Hamilton, John”

Contact:

William Cunliffe
Special Assistant, NWC
william.cunliffe@nara.gov
301-837-3482

~~SECRET~~



Handwritten signature

HAMILTON, JOHN

WASHINGTON - PPB - Pers - 8
2710.

CSS ARCHIVES

NND 42589
WAL 7/19/08

APPLICATION FOR EMPLOYMENT AND PERSONAL HISTORY STATEMENT

- Instructions:**
1. Answer all questions *completely*. If question does not apply write "not applicable." Write "unknown" only if you do not know the answer and cannot obtain the answer from personal records. Use a separate sheet for extra details on *any* question or questions for which you do not have sufficient room.
 2. Attach 2 recent passport size pictures to this form, date taken written on the back of each.
 3. Type, print or write carefully; illegible or incomplete forms will *not* receive consideration.

HAVE YOU READ AND UNDERSTOOD THE INSTRUCTIONS? Yes
Yes or No

SEC. I. PERSONAL BACKGROUND

A. FULL NAME Miss Mr. Sterling E. Hayden TELEPHONE _____
Mr. _____
Mrs. _____
PRESENT ADDRESS Co E 26th ROC M.B. Quantico Va
St. & No. City State Country
LEGAL RESIDENCE Wilson Point South Norwalk Conn.
St. & No. City State Country

B. NICKNAME None ANY OTHER NAMES THAT YOU HAVE USED _____
_____ UNDER WHAT CIRCUMSTANCES HAVE YOU EVER USED THESE NAMES? _____

HOW LONG? _____ IF A LEGAL CHANGE, GIVE PARTICULARS _____
Where _____ When _____
By what authority? _____

C. DATE OF BIRTH 26 March 1916 PLACE OF BIRTH Montclair N.J. U.S.A.
City State Country
RACIAL ORIGIN THROUGH MOTHER US THROUGH FATHER US

D. PRESENT NATIONALITY USA BY BIRTH? Yes BY MARRIAGE? _____
BY NATURALIZATION CERTIFICATE # None ISSUED _____ BY _____
Date Court
AT _____
City State Country

HAVE YOU HAD A PREVIOUS NATIONALITY? No WHAT? _____
HELD BETWEEN WHAT DATES? _____ TO _____ ANY OTHER NATIONALITY? _____

GIVE PARTICULARS: _____

HAVE YOU TAKEN STEPS TO CHANGE PRESENT NATIONALITY? _____

GIVE PARTICULARS: _____

E. LAST U.S. PASSPORT: NUMBER, DATE AND PLACE OF ISSUE

Do not recall
number. Issued at NY about June 1942

HOW MANY OTHER U.S. PASSPORTS HAVE YOU HAD? 1

GIVE APPROXIMATE DATES:

Special Passport Cc 1941 - March 42

PASSPORTS OF OTHER NATIONS? _____

F. IF BORN OUTSIDE U.S. WHEN DID YOU FIRST ARRIVE IN THIS COUNTRY? _____

PORT OF ENTRY? _____

ON PASSPORT OF WHAT COUNTRY? _____

LAST U.S. VISA

Number

Type

Place of issue

Date of issue

SEC. 2. PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

AGE 27 SEX M. RACE Wh. HEIGHT 6' 4" WEIGHT 198

EYES Bl. HAIR Blonde COMPLEXION Fair SCARS _____

BUILD Average OTHER DISTINGUISHING FEATURES _____

SEC. 3. FATHER (GIVE THE SAME INFORMATION FOR STEP-FATHER AND/OR GUARDIAN ON A SEPARATE SHEET)

FULL NAME

First

Middle

Last

LIVING OR DECEASED

DATE OF DECEASE

CAUSE

PRESENT, OR LAST, ADDRESS

St. & No.

City

State

Country

DATE OF BIRTH

PLACE OF BIRTH

City

State

Country

CITIZENSHIP

WHEN ACQUIRED?

WHERE?

City

State

Country

OCCUPATION

LAST EMPLOYER

EMPLOYER'S OR OWN BUSINESS ADDRESS

St. & No.

City

State

Country

MILITARY SERVICE FROM

TO

BRANCH OF SERVICE

COUNTRY

DETAILS OF OTHER GOV'T SERVICE, U.S. OR FOREIGN

SEC. 4. MOTHER (GIVE THE SAME INFORMATION FOR STEP-MOTHER ON A SEPARATE SHEET)

FULL NAME Minnie Frances Simmons
First Maiden Last
LIVING OR DECEASED Live DATE OF DECEASE CAUSE
PRESENT, OR LAST, ADDRESS Wilson Point South Norwalk Conn
St. & No. City State Country
DATE OF BIRTH PLACE OF BIRTH Brooklyn N.Y.
City State Country
CITIZENSHIP U.S. WHEN ACQUIRED? WHERE?
City State Country
OCCUPATION Housewife LAST EMPLOYER
EMPLOYER'S OR OWN BUSINESS ADDRESS
St. & No. City State Country
DETAILS OF GOV'T SERVICE, U.S. OR FOREIGN

SEC. 5. BROTHERS AND SISTERS (INCLUDING HALF-, STEP-, AND ADOPTED BROTHERS AND SISTERS)

FULL NAME
First Middle Last
PRESENT ADDRESS
St. & No. City State Country
FULL NAME
First Middle Last
PRESENT ADDRESS
St. & No. City State Country
FULL NAME
First Middle Last
PRESENT ADDRESS
St. & No. City State Country

SEC. 6. MARITAL STATUS

A. SINGLE MARRIED X DIVORCED WIDOWED

STATE DATE, PLACE AND REASON FOR SEPARATION OR DIVORCE

Madeline Carroll Hayden

B. WIFE OR HUSBAND (IF YOU HAVE BEEN MARRIED MORE THAN ONCE USE A SEPARATE SHEET FOR FORMER WIFE OR HUSBAND AND GIVE REQUIRED DATA FOR ALL PREVIOUS MARRIAGES)

NAME Madeline Carroll Hayden PLACE & Petersborough N.H.
First middle; (for wife, maiden) Last DATE OF MARRIAGE 14 Feb 1942
(HER OR HIS) ADDRESS BEFORE MARRIAGE Palms Verdes Los Angeles Calif
St. & No. City State Country
LIVING OR DECEASED Live DATE OF DECEASE CAUSE
PRESENT, OR LAST, ADDRESS Wilson Point South Norwalk Conn
St. & No. City State Country

SEC. 6. MARITAL STATUS (CONT'D)

DATE OF BIRTH PLACE OF BIRTH Manchester England
City State Country
RACIAL ORIGIN THROUGH FATHER Irish THROUGH MOTHER French
CITIZENSHIP U.S. WHEN ACQUIRED? Feb 1942 WHERE? Hartford Conn.
City State Country
OCCUPATION Actress LAST EMPLOYER Paramount Pictures
EMPLOYER'S OR OWN BUSINESS ADDRESS Los Angeles California U.S.
St. & No. City State Country
MILITARY SERVICE FROM TO BRANCH OF SERVICE
Date Date
COUNTRY DETAILS OF OTHER GOVT. SERVICE, U.S. OR FOREIGN

SEC. 7. FATHER-IN-LAW

FULL NAME Thomas Conall
First Middle Last
LIVING OR DECEASED DATE OF DECEASE
PRESENT, OR LAST, ADDRESS
St. & No. City State Country
RACIAL ORIGIN BIRTH
Date City Country
CITIZENSHIP WHEN ACQUIRED? WHERE?
City State Country

SEC. 8. MOTHER-IN-LAW

FULL NAME ?
First Maiden Last
LIVING OR DECEASED DATE OF DECEASE
PRESENT, OR LAST, ADDRESS
St. & No. City State Country
RACIAL ORIGIN BIRTH
Date City Country
CITIZENSHIP WHEN ACQUIRED? WHERE?
City State Country

SEC. 9. CHILDREN OR DEPENDENTS (INCLUDE PARTIAL DEPENDENTS)

NAME <u> </u>	RELATIONSHIP <u> </u>	AGE <u> </u>
NATIONALITY <u> </u>	ADDRESS <u> </u>	
	St. & No. City State Country	
NAME <u> None</u>	RELATIONSHIP <u> </u>	AGE <u> </u>
NATIONALITY <u> </u>	ADDRESS <u> </u>	
	St. & No. City State Country	
NAME <u> </u>	RELATIONSHIP <u> </u>	AGE <u> </u>
NATIONALITY <u> </u>	ADDRESS <u> </u>	
	St. & No. City State Country	

SEC. 10. RELATIVES BY BLOOD, MARRIAGE OR ADOPTION, WHO LIVE ABROAD, ARE UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF A FOREIGN POWER ARE NOT CITIZENS OF THE UNITED STATES, OR ARE MARRIED TO NON-CITIZENS:

NAME Mr Mrs Thomas Cantle RELATIONSHIP Mother & father in law AGE ?

NATIONALITY _____ ADDRESS _____
St. & No. City State Country

REASON FOR LISTING UNDER THIS QUESTION _____

NAME _____ RELATIONSHIP _____ AGE _____

NATIONALITY _____ ADDRESS _____
St. & No. City State Country

REASON FOR LISTING UNDER THIS QUESTION _____

NAME _____ RELATIONSHIP _____ AGE _____

NATIONALITY _____ ADDRESS _____
St. & No. City State Country

REASON FOR LISTING UNDER THIS QUESTION _____

SEC. 11. RELATIVES BY BLOOD OR MARRIAGE, IN MILITARY, NAVAL OR OTHER GOV'T SERVICE - U.S. OR FOREIGN

NAME _____ RELATIONSHIP _____ AGE _____

NATIONALITY _____ ADDRESS _____
St. & No. City State Country

TYPE AND LOCATION OF SERVICE (IF KNOWN) _____

NAME _____ RELATIONSHIP _____ AGE _____

NATIONALITY _____ ADDRESS _____
St. & No. City State Country

TYPE AND LOCATION OF SERVICE (IF KNOWN) _____

NAME _____ RELATIONSHIP _____ AGE _____

NATIONALITY _____ ADDRESS _____
St. & No. City State Country

TYPE AND LOCATION OF SERVICE (IF KNOWN) _____

SEC. 12. GIVE FIVE CHARACTER REFERENCES - IN THE U.S.

NAME: Emory S. Land ADDRESS Maritime Com. Wash D.C.
St. & No. City State

NAME: Morgan Butler ADDRESS 77 Franklin St Boston Mass
St. & No. City State

NAME: Montaigne M. Sterling ADDRESS Westport Conn.
St. & No. City State

NAME: Robert Ford ADDRESS Wilson Pt So. Norwalk Conn.
St. & No. City State

NAME: Irving Johnson ADDRESS Postmaster San Francisco Calif
St. & No. City State

SEC. 13. NAMES OF 5 PERSONS WHO KNOW YOU SOCIALLY IN THE UNITED STATES. NOT REFERENCES OR EMPLOYERS

1.	NAME	<u>Lincoln Colcord</u>	ADDRESS:	<u>Lebanon Maine</u>	St. & No.	City	State
2.	NAME	<u>Capt Ben Pine</u>	ADDRESS:	<u>Gloucester Mass</u>	St. & No.	City	State
3.	NAME	<u>Harold Carter</u>	ADDRESS:	<u>So Norwalk Conn.</u>	St. & No.	City	State
4.	NAME	<u>Alfred Stanford</u>	ADDRESS:	<u>Rockefeller Plaza N.Y.C.</u>	St. & No.	City	State
5.	NAME	<u>James Trintuly</u>	ADDRESS:	<u>Shoreham Hotel Wash D.C.</u>	St. & No.	City	State

SEC. 14. GIVE THREE NEIGHBORS AT YOUR LAST NORMAL RESIDENCE IN THE U.S.

NAME:	<u>Harold Carter</u>	ADDRESS:	<u>Quincy Pt. So Norwalk Conn</u>	St. & No.	City	State
NAME:	<u>Robert Ford</u>	ADDRESS:	<u>"</u>	St. & No.	City	State
NAME:	<u>Nelson Hays</u>	ADDRESS:	<u>"</u>	St. & No.	City	State

SEC. 15. EDUCATION

SCHOOL:	<u>Brainerd Nichols</u>	ADDRESS:	<u>Cambridge Mass.</u>	City	State	Country
DATES ATTENDED:		<u>Oct 1932</u>	<u>Feb 1933</u>	DEGREE		
SCHOOL:		ADDRESS:		City	State	Country
DATES ATTENDED:				DEGREE		
COLLEGE:		ADDRESS:		City	State	Country
DATES ATTENDED:				DEGREE		
COLLEGE:		ADDRESS:		City	State	Country
DATES ATTENDED:				DEGREE		

SEC. 16. MILITARY, NAVAL OR OTHER GOV'T SERVICE - U.S. OR FOREIGN

<u>US A.</u>	<u>USMC</u>	<u>2nd Lt.</u>	<u>26 Oct 1942</u>	<u>enlisted</u>
Country	Service	Rank	Dates	
<u>Paris D.C.</u>				
Last Station	Serial No.	Type of discharge	Com. Officer	

REMARKS: _____

SEC. 17. SELECTIVE SERVICE STATUS

CLASSIFICATION _____ ORDER # _____ APPROX. INDUCTION DATE _____

BOARD # _____ ADDRESS _____

IF DEFERRED, GIVE REASON _____

SEC. 18.. HAVE YOU EVER BEEN DISCHARGED FROM ANY POSITION, OR LEFT UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH WERE NOT ENTIRELY FAVORABLE? PLEASE GIVE DETAILS: _____

SEC. 19. MISCELLANEOUS

DID YOU EVER HAVE OR DO YOU NOW HAVE MEMBERSHIP IN, OR SUPPORT, ANY POLITICAL PARTY OR ORGANIZATION WHICH ADVOCATES THE OVERTHROW OF OUR CONSTITUTIONAL FORM OF GOVERNMENT IN THE UNITED STATES? _____ IF "YES," EXPLAIN: _____

DO YOU USE, OR HAVE YOU USED INTOXICANTS? _____

HAVE YOU EVER BEEN ARRESTED, INDICTED OR CONVICTED FOR ANY VIOLATION OF LAW OTHER THAN A MINOR TRAFFIC VIOLATION? IF SO, STATE NAME OF COURT, CITY, STATE, COUNTRY, NATURE OF OFFENSE AND DISPOSITION OF CASE. _____

SEC. 20. FINANCIAL BACKGROUND

ARE YOU ENTIRELY DEPENDENT ON YOUR SALARY? No. IF NOT, STATE SOURCES OF OTHER INCOME Savings.

NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF BANKS WITH WHICH YOU HAVE ACCOUNTS N.Y.C.
Chase National Bank Grand Central Branch

HAVE YOU EVER BEEN IN BANKRUPTCY? _____ GIVE PARTICULARS _____

SEC. 20. FINANCIAL BACKGROUND (CONT'D)

GIVE *three* CREDIT REFERENCES - IN THE U.S.

NAME: _____ ADDRESS _____
 St. & No. City State
 NAME: _____ ADDRESS _____
 St. & No. City State
 NAME: _____ ADDRESS _____
 St. & No. City State

SEC. 21. CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY OF EMPLOYMENT FOR PAST 10 YEARS. INCLUDE CASUAL EMPLOYMENT. INCLUDE ALSO PERIODS OF UNEMPLOYMENT. GIVE ADDRESS AND STATE WHAT YOU DID DURING PERIODS OF UNEMPLOYMENT. INCLUDE LAST 5 POSITIONS AND COVER AT LEAST 10 YEARS.

EMPLOYER From 1933-36 Various jobs on TITLE OF JOB _____
 ADDRESS sailing ships all over world St. & No. City State Country
 YOUR DUTIES AND SPECIALTY _____

KIND OF BUSINESS: _____ NAME OF SUPERVISOR _____

FROM: _____ TO: _____ SALARY \$ _____ PER _____

REASONS FOR LEAVING _____

EMPLOYER Irving Johnson TITLE OF JOB Mate
 ADDRESS Springfield Mass St. & No. City State Country
 YOUR DUTIES AND SPECIALTY as above

KIND OF BUSINESS: Sailing NAME OF SUPERVISOR Johnson

FROM: Mar-36 TO: Oct-1938 SALARY \$ _____ PER _____

REASON FOR LEAVING voyage done

EMPLOYER W. D. Robinson Jr TITLE OF JOB Ship master
 ADDRESS Spencer Mass St. & No. City State Country
 YOUR DUTIES AND SPECIALTY as above

KIND OF BUSINESS: Shipping NAME OF SUPERVISOR Self

FROM: Oct-38 TO: April-39 SALARY \$ 200. PER mo

REASONS FOR LEAVING Voyage done

SEC. 21. CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY (CONT'D)

EMPLOYER Coordinator of Info. TITLE OF JOB _____
ADDRESS Wash D.C. St. & No. _____ City _____ State _____ Country _____
YOUR DUTIES AND SPECIALTY _____
KIND OF BUSINESS: _____ NAME OF SUPERVISOR Col. Solberg
FROM: Oct 1941 TO: Feb 1942 SALARY \$ _____ PER _____
REASONS FOR LEAVING job done

EMPLOYER Self TITLE OF JOB Ship master
ADDRESS Wilson Pt. South Norwalk Conn. St. & No. _____ City _____ State _____ Country U.S.A.
YOUR DUTIES AND SPECIALTY Operation of sailing vessel
KIND OF BUSINESS: _____ NAME OF SUPERVISOR Self
FROM: March-42 TO: Oct-42 SALARY \$ C PER _____
REASONS FOR LEAVING To enlist in U.S.M.C.R.

SEC. 22. RESIDENCES FOR THE PAST TEN YEARS

<u>Wilson Point South Norwalk Conn</u>	FROM: <u>June-42</u>	TO: <u>present</u>
St. & No. _____ City _____ State _____ Country _____		
<u>General Solberg Gloucester Mass</u>	FROM: <u>1933</u>	TO: <u>41</u>
St. & No. _____ City _____ State _____ Country _____		
St. & No. _____ City _____ State _____ Country _____	FROM: _____	TO: _____
St. & No. _____ City _____ State _____ Country _____	FROM: _____	TO: _____
St. & No. _____ City _____ State _____ Country _____	FROM: _____	TO: _____
St. & No. _____ City _____ State _____ Country _____	FROM: _____	TO: _____
St. & No. _____ City _____ State _____ Country _____	FROM: _____	TO: _____
St. & No. _____ City _____ State _____ Country _____	FROM: _____	TO: _____

SEC. 23. RESIDENCE OR TRAVEL OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES

<u>Seven years travel as seaman</u>	DATES _____	TO _____
City or Section _____ Country _____ Purpose _____	Month & Year _____	Month & Year _____
<u>all over world</u>	DATES _____	TO _____
City or Section _____ Country _____ Purpose _____	Month & Year _____	Month & Year _____

SEC. 23. RESIDENCE OR TRAVEL (CONT'D)

City or Section	Country	Purpose	DATES	TO	
			Month & Year	Month & Year	
City or Section	Country	Purpose	DATES	TO	
			Month & Year	Month & Year	
City or Section	Country	Purpose	DATES	TO	
			Month & Year	Month & Year	
City or Section	Country	Purpose	DATES	TO	
			Month & Year	Month & Year	

SEC. 24. CLUBS, SOCIETIES AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

LIST NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF ALL CLUBS, SOCIETIES, LABOR UNIONS, PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES, EMPLOYEE GROUPS, ORGANIZATIONS OF ANY KIND (INCLUDE MEMBERSHIP IN OR SUPPORT OF ANY ORGANIZATION HAVING HEADQUARTERS OR BRANCH IN A FOREIGN COUNTRY) TO WHICH YOU HAVE BELONGED:

Master Mariners Association				
Name	St. & No.	City	State	Country
Gloucester	Mass			
Name	St. & No.	City	State	Country
Name	St. & No.	City	State	Country
Name	St. & No.	City	State	Country
Name	St. & No.	City	State	Country
Name	St. & No.	City	State	Country
Name	St. & No.	City	State	Country

SEC. 25. RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION

CHURCH OF ATTENDANCE	Congregational
ADDRESS	NAME OF MINISTER OR PRIEST

SEC. 26 GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS

A. FOREIGN LANGUAGES (STATE DEGREE OF PROFICIENCY AS "SLIGHT" "FAIR" OR "FLUENT")

LANGUAGE	SPEAK	READ	WRITE
French	yes	some	yes
LANGUAGE	SPEAK	READ	WRITE
LANGUAGE	SPEAK	READ	WRITE
LANGUAGE	SPEAK	READ	WRITE
LANGUAGE	SPEAK	READ	WRITE

SEC. 26. GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS (CONT'D)

B. HAVE YOU ANY SPECIAL KNOWLEDGE OR TRAINING WITH RESPECT TO:

MOTOR VEHICLES? _____ AIRPLANES? _____ RADIO? _____

GIVE PARTICULARS _____

Qualified Parachutist

C. LIST *all* SPORTS AND HOBBIES WHICH INTEREST YOU; INDICATE DEGREE OF PROFICIENCY IN EACH.

D. HAVE YOU ANY QUALIFICATIONS, AS A RESULT OF TRAINING OR EXPERIENCE, WHICH MIGHT FIT YOU FOR A PARTICULAR POSITION?

While in employ of C.O.T. attended Special Schools in Scotland & England in winter of 1941-42

SEC. 27. PERSON TO BE NOTIFIED IN CASE OF EMERGENCY:

NAME *Mrs. Sterling Hayden* RELATIONSHIP *Wife*

ADDRESS *Wilder St. S Norwalk Conn 28A*

St. & No.

City

State

Country

18247

OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES

S. O.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

May 4, 1943

TO: Subject's file
FROM: R. Davis Halliwell
SUBJECT: Lt. Stirling Hayden, USMCR

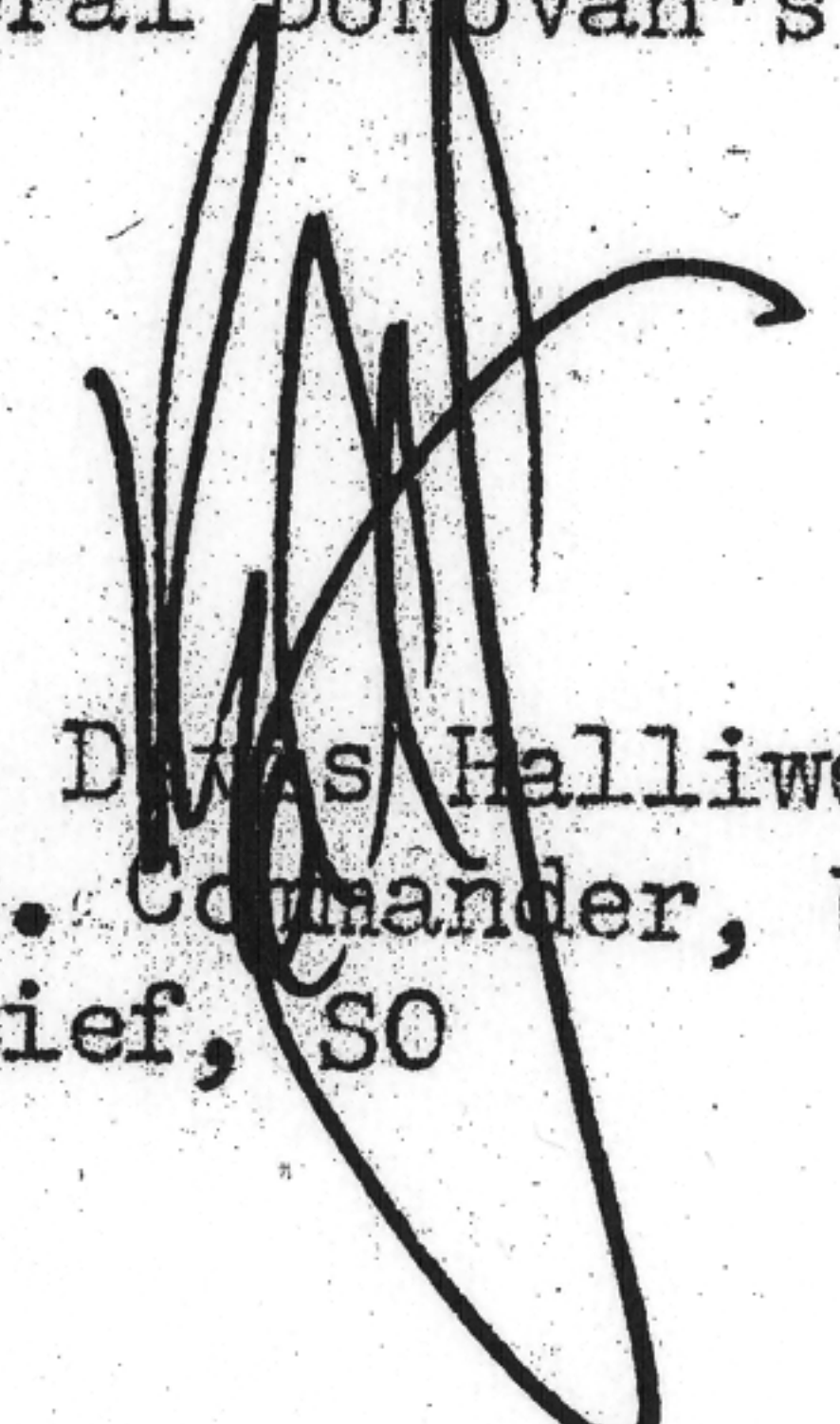
The subject got in touch with General Donovan on May 1st, and expressed a great deal of interest in coming back to OSS after completion of his current tour of duty at Quantico where he is a member of one of the Officer-training school classes, which will graduate around June 15th.

A search has been made of the files for background material as it is understood that Hayden was a member of OSS in 1941, and was sent abroad for SO Training, including parachuting. He informed the writer he had completed a great deal of SO training in England, including static line parachute jumps.

General Donovan suggested that Colonel Huntington and the writer interview Hayden on Sunday morning, May 2nd, which we did, the interview lasting for roughly 3/4 hour, in which Colonel Huntington outlined to Hayden the plans for and the expendable character of Operational Nuclei.

Lt. Hayden expressed a desire to join OSS for assignment to the Operational Nuclei and requested that we take such steps as are necessary to transfer him into OSS.

The search of the files in Q Building, General Donovan's office, and Colonel Goodfellow's office discloses only a handwritten memorandum showing the subject's career from March, 1933 to February, 1940, copy of which is being made a portion of this file and the original and written copy is being routed back to General Donovan's files.


R. Davis Halliwell
Lt. Commander, USNR
Chief, SO

Attachment

18247

OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES
WASHINGTON, D. C.

S. O.

"COPY"

Sterling Hayden (
Born March 26, 1916 (Carlton Hotel

From March 1933 - October 1933 - Seaman on Schooner Puritan - New London to San Pedro.

October 1933 - November 1935 - Fisherman on Gloucester Schooners on Grand Banks.

Winter of 1935-36 - Mate on schooner from Gloucester to Jacksonville and thru West Indies.

March 1936 - October 1938 - First Mate of Schooner Yankee on voyage around world (Lt. Commander Irving Johnson, USNR)

October 1938 - Navigator of Gloucester schooner Gertrude Theland during International Fisherman's Races.

November 1938 - May 1939 - Captain of Brig. "F. C. Robinson - on voyage from Gloucester to Tahiti.

May 1939 - Setp 1939 - Capt of sloop Aries - New England coast

Oct. 1939 - January 1940 - Captain and part-owner of 163 foot schooner Aldebaron between Panama and Charleston, S.C.

February 1940 - left sea.

s/ S. Hayden

~~SECRET~~

OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES
WASHINGTON, D. C.

May 22, 1943

MEMORANDUM

To: Mr. Mudge
From: Ellery C. Huntington, Jr.
Subject: OSS Operational Groups - French Unit -
Lt. Hayden and Major Fuller

1. I have written several memoranda, as I recallit, asking that steps be taken for the transfer of these officers.

2. I understand that the OSS Officers Board is objecting to the transfer of Lt. Hayden.

3. These officers were specially requested by General Donovan. Does the Board know this?

E.C.H.
Ellery C. Huntington, Jr.
Colonel, AUS

100-211111

18247

S. O.

May 24, 1943

To: Mr. Charles S. Cheston
From: Mr. William Mudge
Subject: Request for Transfer--2nd Lt. Sterling Hayden

1. In accordance with the action taken by the Officers Board on May 24, we hereby request the transfer of 2nd Lt. Sterling Hayden, USMCR, from Officers Training School, Marine Corps, Quantico, Virginia to Office of Strategic Services, Operational Groups.
2. Lt. Hayden will be assigned as Area Commander of Operational Groups for special missions in France.
3. He has had experience and training and has capabilities which qualify him for this work.
4. Colonel Huntington has interviewed Lt. Hayden, and General Donovan is specially interested in his transfer.

William Mudge

WM/r1

RECEIVED-21

24 VI AS YAM 2401

18247

June 2, 1943

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

It gives me pleasure to advise you of my personal acquaintance and knowledge of Lieutenant Sterling Hayden, United States Marine Corps.

Having known Lt. Hayden before he entered the Service, as well as during his tour of duty at Parris Island and Quantico, it is my opinion that he is an outstanding young man of splendid character, ability and personality. Before entering the Marine Corps, Lt. Hayden did a splendid job in the Merchant Marine Service requiring initiative, judgment, courage and resourcefulness under dangerous circumstances, and I know he prefers similar service in the Marine Corps where I feel certain he would perform his duties as ably and as efficiently as in the Merchant Service.

In addition, Lt. Hayden has a pleasing personality that should carry him far as an Officer in the Marine Corps. As stated above, it gives me much pleasure to highly recommend him as to character, ability and personality for any assignment under consideration.

I consider him "top flight".

Signed: E. S. Land

E. S. Land
Rear Admiral (CC) U.S.N., Ret'd
Chairman, U. S. Maritime Commission
Administrator, War Shipping Administration

~~SECRET~~

HEADQUARTERS
OPERATIONAL GROUPS, OSS
OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES
WASHINGTON, D.C.

June 3, 1943

Subject: Operational Groups, OSS Personnel -
2nd Lt. Sterling Hayden, USMCR

To: Mr. Cheston

1. I understand from Mr. Mudge that the Marine Corps is objecting to the transfer of Lt. Hayden until the end of his present course which I understand to be in about four weeks.

2. I do not want to ask that a further request be made the Marine Corps for the immediate services of Lt. Hayden if this is likely to upset procedure. On the other hand, he and his running mate, Major Fuller, would be of great service to us if we could have them immediately, as we are about to recruit French Operational Groups of which it is intended they shall be members.

3. I understand the Officers' Board acted on Lt. Hayden's case on May 24th last.

ELLERY C. HUNTINGTON, JR.
Colonel, AUS
Commanding

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OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES

REQUEST FOR SECURITY INVESTIGATION

TO: Security Office

DATE: 9 July 1943

FROM: Wm. W. Downey, Lt., U.S.N.R.

SUBJECT: .

Will you please conduct a Provisional security investigation on the Subject whose Personal History Statement (SA-1 Form) is attached. (Put crosses in appropriate boxes.)

- 1) The Subject is being considered for work on the Staff ☐, in the field ☐, and an open ☐, discreet ☐, investigation is recommended.
- 2) The investigation may reveal ☐, should not reveal ☐, interest on the part of the Government.
- 3) The present employers of the Subject may know ☐, should not know ☐, that he is being investigated.
- 4) The Subject himself may know ☐, should not know ☐, he is being investigated.
- 5) Copy of SA-5 should go to Navy Liaison ☐, HQ and HQ Detachment ☐. (Do not request extra copy unless necessary.)
- 6) In the original contact with the Subject did he approach OSS ☐ or did OSS seek him ☐?
- 7) Remarks: (Under this section please note especially any references, past employers, etc., who should not be approached by our investigators with the reasons therefor, as well as any other pertinent facts bearing on the case.)

18247
S.O.
OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES

INTEROFFICE MEMO

CONFIDENTIAL

TO: Mr. William Mudge

DATE: July 21, 1943

FROM: Security Office

SUBJECT: Hamilton, John, Lieut. - BB 4635-W

In accordance with your request of July 20,
1943 subject is hereby approved for overseas
travel.

Weston Howland
Weston Howland
Security Officer

The Oversea Travel Approval granted
in this letter

EXPIRES

NINETY DAYS FROM DATE

Extension of this approval beyond
expiration date will be determined
by the Security Office, OSS,
upon request.

CONFIDENTIAL

18247

OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES
WASHINGTON, D. C.

21 July 1943

MEMORANDUM

TO: Personnel Officer, SO

FROM: G. R. Holden, Assistant Operations Officer
Middle East, SO

SUBJECT: Transfer of Lt. John Hamilton From OG to SO

Lieutenant Hamilton advises me that he has obtained consent from Colonel Huntington to release him for assignment to this office.

We have an immediate assignment for which we wish to propose Lieutenant Hamilton to our Theatre. Accordingly it would be appreciated if his transfer could be effected in due course and this office notified.

On the strength of Colonel Huntington's consent, I am cabling Cairo to propose subject's candidacy.

*Mr. Huntington - 7/21
wan*

G. R. Holden
G. R. HOLDEN

OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES

INTEROFFICE MEMO

TO: G. R. Holden
Room 2137
FROM: William Mudge

DATE: July 22, 1943

SUBJECT: Transfer of Lt. John Hamilton from OG to SO

This transfer has been authorized; approval of same is hereby
communicated.

Wm.

William Mudge

*OK
R.R. Mudge*

HEADQUARTERS SBS
SO BRANCH
APO 777

1 April, 1944

SUBJECT : Recommendation for promotion of Lt. Hamilton.
TO : Commanding Officer, Naval Command OSS
THRU : Director, OSS/ME

1. It is recommended that John Hamilton, 2nd Lt., USMCR, 022085-1, be promoted to the rank of 1st Lt. On 22 April, 1944, Lt. Hamilton will have completed one year of service in grade.
2. Lt. Hamilton, during the period 7 to 24 December, 1943, directed the organization of the SBS base at Monopoli in an efficient manner, establishing living and messing quarters for 500 men and at the same time, maintained the schedule of ship loading.
3. During the period 24-30 December, Lt. Hamilton conducted a reconnaissance of the Dalmatian Islands to plot alternate shipping routes in event of German invasion, which then was starting. He was strafed by German planes, and, in the view of the Partisan Naval Command, conducted himself in a brave manner.
4. From 1 January, 1944 to 20 March, 1944, Lt. Hamilton procured and equipped an unarmed fishing vessel, trained the crew, and conducted four missions to Greece and Albania for the movement of SBS agents and the supplying of SBS bases in those countries. These trips were skillfully conducted through enemy waters in unfavorable and unfamiliar seas in an unarmed, slow vessel.
5. On 25 March, 1944, Lt. Hamilton volunteered for a hazardous mission behind enemy lines and has played a prominent part in the planning of the proposed operation.
6. His promotion not only is well merited but it is believed that he will be of greater service to SBS with the higher rank since his British counterpart holds the rank of Major and his Partisan counterpart the rank of Colonel.

EDWARD J. GREEN
Lt. Comdr., USNR
Commanding

Enclosure A

Hamilton file.

OUTGOING MESSAGES

(SECRET)

Naval Command

1 July 1944

FOR: HOFFMAN, ~~CMDR CUSHING~~

DATE: 24 June 1944

FROM: ~~GREEN~~ Green ~~thru Alger~~

NUMBER:

INFORMATION:

CLERK:

2nd Lt. John Hamilton, USMCR., 022085-1, has been in grade 14 months.

Urgently recommend his promotion. Understand his class went up 4 months ago.

He has made eight trips to enemy accupied territory, on clandestine and hazardous secret operations, five in command unarmed fishing vessels.

Unquestionably this promotion should be pushed through soonest and be effective retroactively to earliest possable date.

~~Hold~~

~~this will be taken up with Capt. Davis and he will be urged to send that cable direct to Washington~~

~~24-6-44~~

Type over Original & copy

Sent 1 July 08

HEADQUARTERS
CO. "B", 2677th Regt. OSS (PROV)
APO 777

*Hamilton
file*

8 July, 1944

From : Chief, SO (Acting)
To : Commanding Officer,
Co. B. 2677th Regt. OSS (PROV)
Subject : 2nd Lt. John Hamilton, USMC; Explanation of cable reference to
recommendation for promotion of.
Reference : (a) Secret Air Dispatch No. 23 from Glavin to Green and
Deranian, dated 2 July 1944.
(b) Secret Cable No. 192 from Green to Hoffman and Naval
Command, dated 30 June 1944, which was not relayed by
OSS-Algiers.
(c) C.O.'s letter rec. promotion of subject, dated 1 April 1944.

Enclosure : (A) Copy of reference (c)

1. In pursuance of your request, the following is submitted by way of explanation of subject. It is also suggested as an answer to reference (a):
2. At the outset it should be noted that a recommendation for a promotion of 2nd Lt. Hamilton was transmitted 1 April 1944 over your signature in accordance with the established procedure for Marine and Navy personnel. An examination of the files in this headquarters indicates that though 3 months have transpired, no action whatever has been taken-not even an acknowledgement is on record here. It must be assumed that the letter of 1 April passed through channels to its destination.
3. After being designated as the Chief Officer of SO (7 June), and in order to determine SO personnel strength, availability and morale, all SO personnel were interviewed. It was found, among other things, that a considerable morale problem existed because of a deficiency in the promotions program. To remedy that situation, SO embarked on a policy of recommending promotions where merited, as rapidly as the almost complete lack of stenographic assistance permitted.
4. In the case of a number of Army personnel whose records did not indicate previous recommendations without action, the usual letter type recommendation was prepared and transmitted through channels for final action in Algiers.
5. Subject's case, however, was different from that of the Army personnel in the following respects:
 - (a) His recommendation had been pending for months.
 - (b) He is a Marine Officer and, as such, his commanding officer for all personnel matters, including promotions, is the C.O., Naval Command, OSS, Washington, who in turn is bound by Navy Department directives and procedures.

- (c) Under these directives, only the Navy Department can promote subject. He cannot be promoted by any one, or any unit, within OSS - in the field or otherwise.
- (d) Under these directives the Department (when it does not act on its own initiative) has its own promotion (selection) board to consider promotion requests from Commanding Officers (in the case of OSS, Captain Ward P. Davis, USN) of Marine personnel. The Department does not recognize the various OSS promotion boards which have been set up in conformance with Army regulations governing Army promotions.
- (e) Naval Command may request promotions on its own initiative or it may make a request to the Navy department after having received a convincing recommendation from the man's military commanding officer (in this case, yourself).
- (f) There are no Marine T/O's to complicate or otherwise limit a Marine promotion.

6. Knowing that the official request for promotion of subject would have to originate with Naval Command, and being further assured in my conversation with Capt. Davis when he was here, I chose the most direct and effective communication available to revive reference (c). I had hoped that its objective might be achieved before Lt. Hamilton departs on his next scheduled mission into enemy occupied territory-hence reference (b) for relay to Hoffman and Naval Command.

7. While assigned to OSS, Washington, several cables from the field, similar to reference (b) but involving lesser degrees of urgency, came over my desk for action or information. As a result of that experience, it did not occur to me that subject promotion, in spite of delays involved, might not be considered a proper subject for a cable.

8. Until our conversation about this subject, I did not realize that reference (b) had been transmitted without your prior knowledge. I can assure you that it was started on its way from the SO office in the usual manner.

9. I regret exceedingly that this matter has resulted in complications. However, I know you will recognize that it is due in part, at least, to my own zeal and enthusiasm to do an effective job with a minimum of red tape. I assure you that hereafter cables will not be used except in the most urgent cases and that they will be routed in such fashion as to preclude the recurrence of these complications.

10. I trust that these complications will not affect the much ^{deserved} promotion of Lt. Hamilton. He has demonstrated every qualification for promotion. He has been in grade for over 14 months; he has engaged in a number of projects in enemy occupied territory and enemy controlled waters; and he has engaged in missions of the most hazardous nature,

which have brought credit to OSS. He merits promotion as soon as possible and I strongly recommend it.

B.N. Deranian
Lieut. USNR

cc C.O. Naval Command, OSS
Chief, SO - Washington

PERSONNEL INFORMATION BLANK
(ARMY, NAVY, CIVILIAN, NATIVE HELP)

DATE 5 Aug. 1944
NAME John Hamilton GRADE 2 Lt. SERIAL NO. 022083-1
DATE OF BIRTH 26 Mar. 1916 PLACE OF BIRTH Montclair N.J.
NATIONALITY U.S. CITIZEN U.S.
ARRIVED CAIRO 5 November 1943
PRESENT ADDRESS _____ TELEPHONE NO. _____
MARITAL STATUS yes By God NO. DEPENDENTS 2
HOME ADDRESS Wilson Point South Norwalk Conn.

LENGTH OF SERVICE 23 months
MILITARY RECORD Unfurnished

DATE OF PRESENT RANK April 23 '43 DATE OF ACTIVE DUTY 26 Oct. 1942
DATE OF TRANSFER TO OSS June 1943 SECURITY APPROVAL DATE _____

EDUCATION 1 1/2 years high school
LANGUAGES _____
PRE-WAR OCCUPATION (last three years in detail) Seaman

NEXT OF KIN Mrs. John Hamilton
ADDRESS American Red Cross
REMARKS Washington D.C.

(OVER)

John Hamilton 5 Aug
Signature Date

AGENT CHECK LIST

1. CODE NAME _____ SCHOOL NAME _____
2. MISSION NAME Sennagoque
3. CAIRO TRAINING
(a) RADIO SCHOOL Niente
(b) JANGUAGE SCHOOL _____
(c) JUMP SCHOOL Ringway Field Engl Jan '42
(d) CODE _____
(e) MISC. _____
4. EQUIPMENT ISSUED _____
(a) RADIO X-15

(b) MISC. _____

(c) PERSONAL _____

(d) WEIGHT: PERSONAL 200 lbs. EQUIP. 50 lbs. TOTAL 250 lbs.
5. TRAVEL ORDERS REQUESTED _____ RECEIVED _____
6. LEAVE FOR BARI _____
7. BARI INFORMED _____
8. CIPHER ARRANGEMENT _____

9. BRIEFING _____

Signature of Agent

10. PAY AND ALLOTMENT STATUS Pay accounts at Marine
Corps Hq. Wash DC

11. CORRESPONDENCE DETAILS _____

12. NAMES OF THOSE HOLDING POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR AGENT Mrs. John
Hamilton

13. REMAINING FINANCIAL DETAILS TO BE HANDLED BY OSS-ME _____

14. BAGGAGE TO BE STORED BY OSS-ME c/o SF Connelly

15. CLOTHING SIZES

SHOES	<u>11 1/2 E</u>	HEIGHT	<u>6' 4"</u>
SOCKS	<u>12 1/2</u>	WEIGHT	<u>200</u>
TROUSER LENGTH	<u>35</u>		
WAIST	<u>34</u>		
SLEEVE LENGTH	<u>34</u>		
COLLAR SIZE	<u>16</u>		
HAT SIZE	<u>7 3/8</u>		
UNDERSHIRT	<u>40</u>		
UNDERPANTS	<u>34</u>		
SWEATER			
BLOUSE	<u>42</u>		
OVERCOAT	<u>44</u>		
RAINCOAT	<u>42</u>		
GLOVES	<u>9 1/2</u>		
FIELD JACKET	<u>42</u>		
COVERALLS			
BELT	<u>38</u>		

(TO BE FILLED IN BY INTERVIEWING OFFICER ONLY)

REMARKS - (General classification of duty, ie., office, staff,
instructing, field operations, etc.)

RECOMMENDATIONS - (Decorations or citations)

WOUNDS OR SERIOUS HOSPITALIZATIONS -

ACTION TAKEN -

Date of return to United States or transfer to other organization other
than SO _____

Whether or not receiving Parachute Pay _____

Signature

Date

SUBJECT MUST NOT SEE THIS FORM

Transferred to 35

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

John Hamilton THEATER SERVICE RECORD

30 October 1944
80

ME Date

2nd Lt., USMCR

1. NAME 2. GRADE 3. SERIAL NO. 4. DATE OF BIRTH 5. PHYSICAL CONDITION 6. THEATER BRANCH 7. LENGTH OF SERVICE IN THEATER 8. PROCURED U.S. THEATER 9. COMMENT OF THEATER SECURITY OFFICER

Since 5 Nov. 1943

022085-1

26 March, 1916

Excellent

1-1/2 years high school

a little French, Spanish (speaking only)

Handling of small vessels

Seaman and motion pictures

10. EDUCATION 11. LANGUAGE 12. SPECIAL SKILL 13. PRINCIPAL CIVILIAN EXPERIENCE

U.S. Marine Corps Officers Training at Quantico, Va.

14. MILITARY OR NAVAL EXPERIENCE PRIOR TO OSS

1944 NOV 17 PM 1

2nd Lieut.

15. RECORD OF SERVICE WITH OSS

Dates Branch Grade or Rank Duty

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SUBJECT MUST NOT SEE THIS FORM

C O N F I D E N T I A L

16. Rating

	Super- ior	Excel- lent	Very Satis- factory	Satis- factory	Un- satis- factory
MOTIVATION, energy, effort, initiative, interest in assignment.	X				
PRACTICAL INTELLIGENCE, Speed and accuracy of judgement, resourcefulness in solving problems.		X			
STABILITY, emotional control and maturity, absence of nervous symptoms.		X			
ABILITY TO WORK WITH OTHERS, teamwork, tact, absence of annoying traits.	X				
LEADERSHIP, organizing ability, ability to win cooperation.					
PHYSICAL ABILITY, agility, daring, ruggedness, stamina.	X				

17. REMARKS (Be sure to record outstanding accomplishments and weaknesses)

18. COMPLETION OF MISSION He is essentially a seaman and has demonstrated great skill in handling small vessels on clandestine missions along the coast. He has great courage and has shown an almost reckless disregard of his own life where duty is involved.

19. RECOMMENDATIONS He has just completed another mission in the Theater and the progress of the War limited his usefulness here. He is a valuable man and should be made available for other Theaters without delay.
(b) If so, in what capacity?

20. PAPERS ACCOMPANYING OFFICER (never to include this form)

1. Small boat operations of
2. nature.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

21. PAPERS BEING POUCHED TO U.S. - OSS (Including this Form)

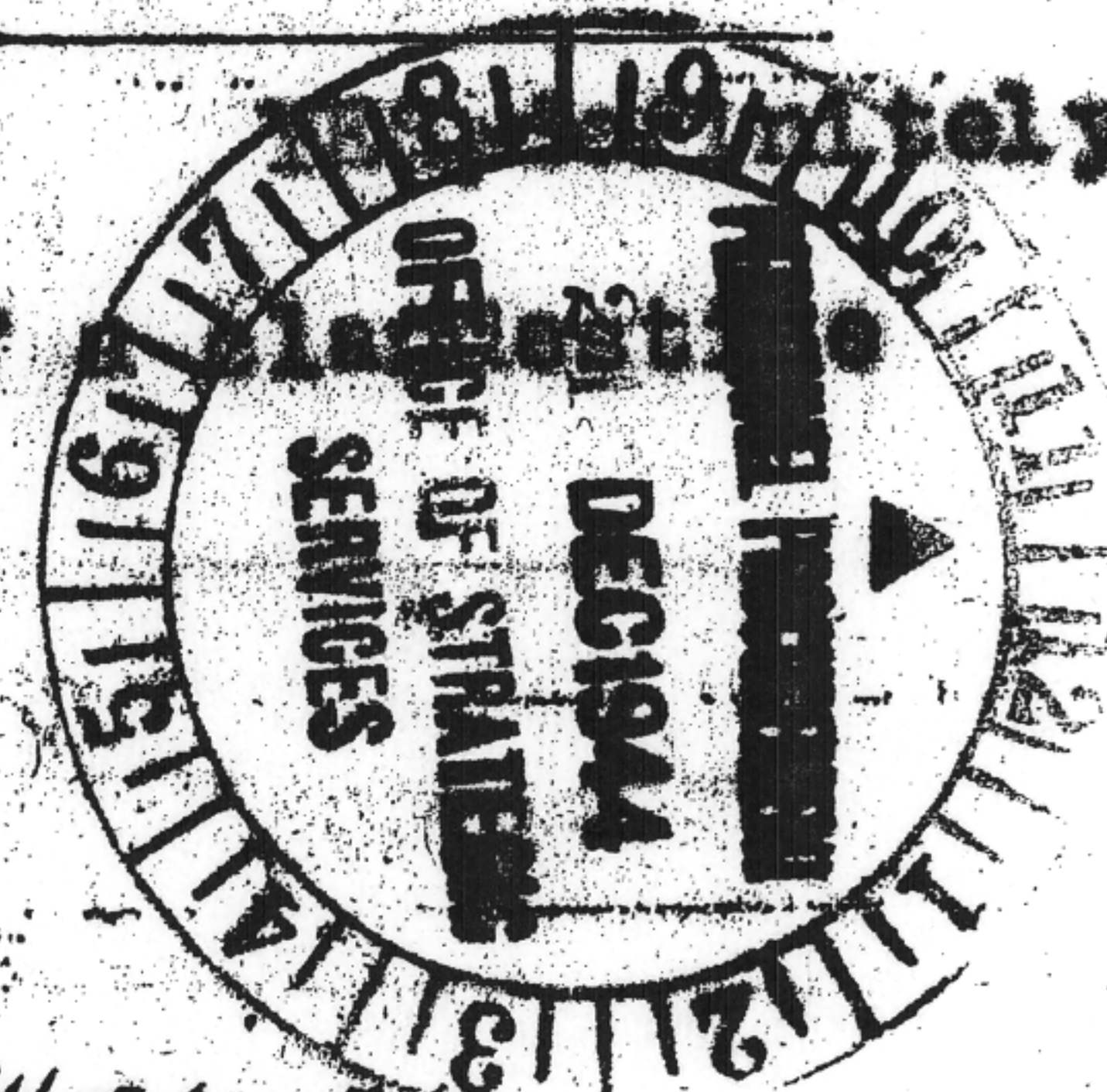
- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

PREPARED BY: *B. D. Graham*
(Man's immediate superior officer)

BRANCH CHIEF: *John B. Hunt*

PERSONNEL OFFICER: *E. J. Heon*

C O N F I D E N T I A L



*may. 20
Ch. 50*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

THEATER SERVICE RECORD

DATE 30 October 1944

1. NAME John Hamilton 6. THEATER ME BRANCH SO
2. GRADE 2nd Lt., USMCR 7. LENGTH OF SERVICE IN
THEATER Since 5 Nov. 1943
3. SERIAL NO. 022085-1 8. PROCURED U.S. THEATER
4. DATE OF BIRTH 26 March, 1916 9. COMMENT OF THEATER SECURITY OFFICER
Security excellent
5. PHYSICAL CONDITION Excellent Major L. Kull
10. EDUCATION 1-1/2 years high school
11. LANGUAGE a little French, Spanish (speaking only)
12. SPECIAL SKILL Handling of small vessels
13. PRINCIPAL CIVILIAN EXPERIENCE Seaman and motion pictures

14. MILITARY OR NAVAL EXPERIENCE PRIOR TO OSS

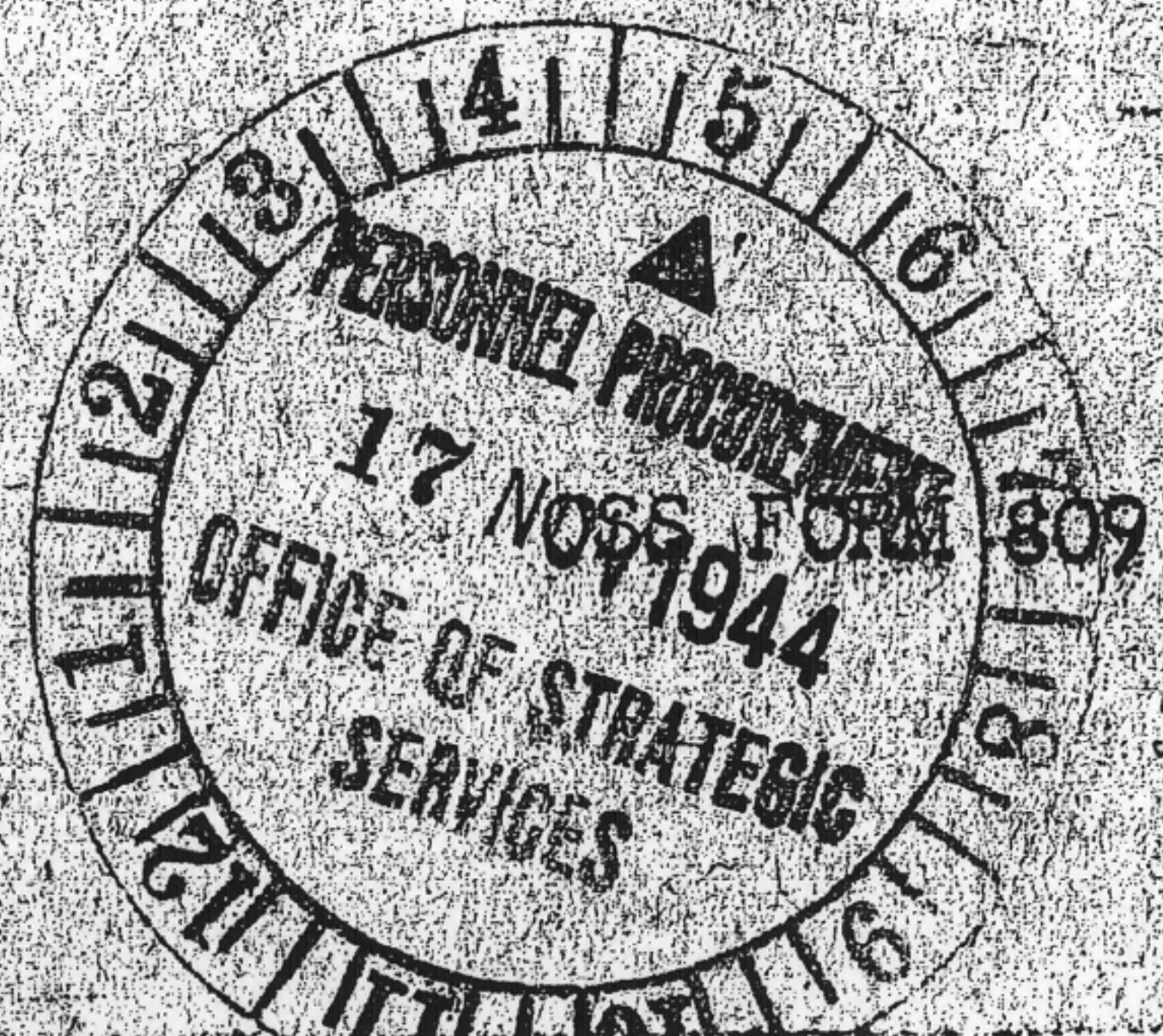
U.S. Marine Corps Officers Training at Quantico, Va.

15. RECORD OF SERVICE OSS

DATES	BRANCH	GRADE OR RANK	DUTY
	<u>SO</u>	<u>2nd Lieut.</u>	

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

(46213)



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

16. RATING

	Superior	Excellent	Very Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
<u>MOTIVATION</u> , energy, effort, initiative, interest in assignment.	x			
<u>PRACTICAL INTELLIGENCE</u> , speed and accuracy of judgment, resourcefulness in solving problems.		x		
<u>STABILITY</u> , emotional control and maturity, absence of nervous symptoms.		x		
<u>ABILITY TO WORK WITH OTHERS</u> , teamwork, tact, absence of annoying traits.	x			
<u>LEADERSHIP</u> , organizing ability, ability to win cooperation.				
<u>PHYSICAL ABILITY</u> , agility, daring, ruggedness, stamina.	x			

17. REMARKS (Be sure to record outstanding accomplishments and weaknesses)

He is essentially a seaman and has demonstrated great skill in handling small vessels on clandestine missions along the Dalmatian Coast. He has great courage and has shown an almost reckless disregard of his own life where duty is involved.

18. COMPLETE REASONS FOR RETURN TO U.S. He has just completed another mission in the Theater and the progress of the War limited his further usefulness here. He is a valuable man and should be made available for other Theaters without delay.

19. RECOMMENDATIONS (a) Do you recommend his further use in OSS? YES, definitely
 (b) If so, in what capacity? Small boat operations of a clandestine nature.

20. PAPERS ACCOMPANYING OFFICER (never to include this form)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

21. PAPERS BEING POUCHED TO U.S. - OSS (including this form)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

PREPARED BY

(Man's immediate superior officer)

BRANCH CHIEF

PERSONNEL OFFICER

Robert R. [illegible]

for Lt. H. 1
ember 2, 1944
18247

NARRATIVE OF
LT. JOHN HAMILTON, USMCR

I. On October 3, 1941 I was assigned by General Donovan the task of proceeding in company with Col. Solborg to Scotland via Iceland and London for a three month's training course to be followed by two weeks at parachute school. We arrived in Glasgow December 7, 1941, proceeded to London where Col. Solborg arranged the details of the training. For about three days the Colonel took me around to different British officers who conducted interviews and briefed me as to the type of work. None of the officers were introduced by name or Unit and the whole organization worked in great secrecy.

On approximately December 15 I arrived at the first school in Arisaig, Scotland. The training here lasted for about three weeks and consisted of the usual so-called "commando" type of work. At that time I was the only American in the school, which was run entirely by Scottish commando officers and non-coms. Relations with these men were extremely good. They were very, very cooperative and helpful in every way. Upon completion at Arisaig, I proceeded to another school near Malaig for two weeks more of the same work. Following this I underwent training at three other schools for varying periods of time, then proceeded directly to Ringway Field near Manchester, England, for parachuting. The course, consisting of six jumps, was completed in ten days. I fractured my left ankle on the last jump.

I then reported to the office of COI in London, made a report, and was returned to Washington. Upon arrival here I was offered a commission in the Army, but refused it because I did not wish a direct commission. At this time I left the organization and returned to civilian life.

II. On October 26, 1942, I enlisted in the Marine Corps and proceeded to Paris Island. After six weeks as a drill instructor following completion of boot camp, I was ordered to Quantico for OCS. I was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the Marine Corps Reserve on April 30, 1943. After eight weeks more at Quantico, I was assigned to the Training Section, Quantico, which meant two years in the States. Therefore, I again contacted the OSS and had an interview with Lt. Comdr. Hallowel. He pointed out that the OSS was in need of junior officers who had the requisite training, and particularly who had had considerable small boat experience prior to the war. Inasmuch as I had had nine years at sea, I was considered qualified for any work of this nature.

I reported to "Q" Building, July 15, 1943, and after some delay was assigned to the SO Section. Commander Hallowel was not present during this time, and the immediate assignment I received was to proceed to Cairo, from which point I was to enter Greece as a liaison officer with the resistance groups. Prior to leaving Washington I made a trip through the Middle West, interviewing radio operators with the object of choosing one who would work with me as operator and interpreter. The operator whom I choose, and who was to follow me immediately, I have never seen or heard of since. On or about August 25 my orders were cut and I was alerted. Six weeks later I was still awaiting transportation so then I contacted Captain Hoffman as regarded my going to the Far East. Immediately following this my transportation came through.

III. I left the States via steamer October 10 in company with various other OSS personnel. We arrived three weeks later at Arzew near Oran. We were put into a Naval Receiving Station and told by the Naval personnel officer we would have to wait an indefinite length of time for further transportation. At that time we were full of enthusiasm, so for five days

Lt. (j.g.) Ellen and myself raised hell trying to get on to Cairo. I contacted the OSS representative, Mr. Lovering Hill, who took less than no interest in our situation. However, I succeeded in getting Naval air transportation to Cairo at that time.

Upon arrival in Cairo on or about November 6 I reported to Lt. Col. West. His first words were as follows: "Sit down and tell me what they told you you were going to do here, because it is always interesting to see how different the situation really is." I had no definite assignment in Greece or elsewhere, and for two days I did nothing. Fortunately, I was rooming with Major Louis Hoot, who had just returned from setting up the Partisan shipping line in Italy. Upon his suggestion, and at his request, I was ordered to report to Major Coon in Bari.

After waiting three days I was asked if I could leave in 30 minutes' time in company with Captain Lloyd Smith. This we did, and reported to Alexandria where we found we were in charge of several OSS vehicles on board a British liberty ship. Seven days later the ship sailed from Alexandria and eventually reached Taranto, Italy, sixteen days out of Alexandria. We were given no orders for this trip, and therefore Smith hitch-hiked to Bari. I telephoned SBS Bari and asked for Major Coon. I was told he had been relieved, and I was to deal with Major Koch. Koch told me to stay aboard the ship until the vehicles were unloaded, inasmuch as that was about the most important thing that was doing in SBS at the time. This I did and reported to Bari on December 5.

Fortunately, after an unsatisfactory meeting with Major Koch and Major Weil, I met Captain Hans Tofte and through him I was assigned to the Shipping Section at SBS. Three hours after arrival in Bari I was working on the docks with Captain Tofte and Lt. Thompson on the Partisan shipping line. This was the first time since joining OSS I was associated with men who were really doing

a job. Captain Tofte, Lt. Thompson; Lt. Ellen, who had come through from Oran to Bari, were working on an average of sixteen hours a day, seven days a week.

The shipping operation at that time was handling 45 Partisan steamers, schooners and motor vessels, and attending to the almost unlimited and very complex details of such an operation. Captain Tofte, who had taken over from Major Hoot, had established a magnificent liaison with the Yugoslavian Partisans. They had implicit faith in his judgment and the whole operation was exemplary in every respect. In addition to the straight shipping operation, Captain Tofte was fighting an up-hill battle with the Royal Navy and with various British officers in Bari who were jealous of the American position at that time. He was greatly handicapped in having absolutely no support from his organization, SBS; and in fact, Major Koch, Commander McBane, and Major Weil did everything in their power to hinder the operation.

On December 6, the British decided they could break up the operation by forcing us to move away from the port of Bari altogether. Captain Tofte made a quick reconnaissance trip thirty-five miles down the coast and choose the port of Monopoli from which to carry out further operations. On December 7, I was appointed in charge of establishing a new base at Monopoli. We loaded 75 picked Partisans, including stevedores, shipwrights, machinists, and office personnel aboard the 350 ton Partisan steamer STON and proceeded to Monopoli. The following day five Partisan schooners came in to be loaded. Upon arrival in Monopoli, I was met by a Lieutenant of the Royal Navy who was a thorough-going obstructionist. In spite of him we managed to load the schooner ORION in twenty-three hours, including all night work by lantern light. The ORION was dispatched for the Yugoslav island of Vis with 400 tons of hand grenades, rifles, ammunition, clothing, flour and high octane gas.

During the next two weeks virtually the entire Bari shipping organization of Yugoslav Partisans moved down to our new base at Monopoli. We requisitioned warehouses, barracks, lighters, automobiles, and whatever was required, with a free hand at this time. On about the 18th of December I was joined by Lt. Thompson and two enlisted men. Captain Tofte remained in Bari to fight the Royal Navy and to try and reduce the damage being done to the Partisan cause by Major Koch, Lt. Comdr. McBane and Major Weil. At this time the situation in the Yugoslav islands was somewhat precarious. The only American officer there, Captain Benson, was suddenly ordered to report to Cairo, thus leaving no American personnel whatsoever along the Yugoslav coast.

Unfortunately, this coincided with a German offensive on the Island of Korcula, which threatened to make untenable the Partisan foothold in that area. Therefore, Captain Tofte decided that I should proceed at once to the islands for two reasons: First, to handle the off-loading of ships from Italy, and Second, that there should be at least a token representation of the American flag. On Christmas day I arrived at the Island of Hvar aboard a British LCI. From Hvar I crossed to Korcula the following night in a Partisan launch. At this time approximately 3,500 German and Ustashi troops, well equipped, and with four tanks and air cover, were driving some 1500 ill-equipped Partisans off the Island. There was constant dive bombing by Stukas and ME-109's. During the entire time, no Allied aircraft were seen.

On the night of the 29th we evacuated Korcula entirely, leaving perhaps three hundred Partisans in the hills and at various spots about the Island. We returned to Hvar, and for two days were subjected to heavy and frequent dive bombing by Stukas, apparently in preparation for an assault on that Island. On December 30 I was standing on the back porch of the Partisan HQ with Col. Manola when four Stukas attacked that particular building. No hits were scored, but five civilians were killed and a number wounded

nearby. The following day, while driving in a Fiat to inspect the Partisan line of defense, we were strafed, the driver being killed before he could get out from under the wheel. Two days later I crossed from Hvar to Vis on the 70-foot Partisan schooner which had over 400 women and children refugees aboard. The trip was made without trouble.

Vis at that time was virtually a young Gibraltar, having some 5,000 crack Partisan troops, most of whom were veterans of fighting in Bosnia. However, over 6,000 refugees were living in a town the normal population of which was 1200. They had no clothing, blankets, or shoes, and the food allowance was 1/4 lb. of bread per day per family. I took it upon myself to have a conference with the local Commandant and Commissar. At that time they still had a very sincere and implicit faith in American aid. They did not realize that in every instance the final decision rested with the British. Inasmuch as the British showed no intention of a mass evacuation to the safety of Italy, I was determined to return to Bari and endeavor to arrange same.

Upon arrival in Bari I found that Captain Tofte and Lt. Thompson had had an open clash with the senior officers in SBS; therefore, SBS took not the slightest interest in the conditions on the other side of the Adriatic. So far as I could see, they were completely occupied in determining who was to be the commanding officer at Bari. I believe had they intervened with the British on behalf of the Partisan refugees, the evacuation process could have been tremendously expedited. However, it was necessary for Captain Tofte to deal with the British without the backing of our organization, and therefore all negotiations were fruitless.

On about January 4, Tofte, Thompson, Ellen and myself decided that the situation was intolerable. We therefore got together with Major Koch, who had more or less emerged as the commanding officer, and told him that

unless we were authorized to really operate, and unless SBS would give us the requisite support, we wished to have nothing more to do with the whole situation. Captain Tofte presented this sentiment in a very cool and quiet and absolutely straight-forward manner, but Major Koch immediately took the attitude that it was some sort of "mutiny," and Lt. Ellen and myself were ordered to report to Headquarters in Bari and have nothing more to do with the shipping situation.

The Partisan officers in charge realized the situation and were very much distressed that a heretofore effective team of men should be so absolutely broken up. I reported to Major Koch, and he told me he wanted me to learn his system of operating at Bari HQ. He said he considered I had been led astray by Tofte and Thompson, and was to have nothing whatsoever to do with them. So for the following week I sat around Headquarters doing nothing. Major Koch was very much worried about the shipping situation, inasmuch as at that time it was far and away the biggest and most effective OSS operation in that Theater, and he realized that he had^{no} men capable of replacing Tofte and Thompson. However, with complete disregard for the operation, Tofte and Thompson were relieved of their duties and replaced by one Lt. Jacobs, former Bari Adjutant, who knew nothing whatsoever of the situation, the business, or the Partisans, and what's more, who cared less!

A good indication of Major Koch's apprehension was that he ordered Tofte and Thompson to leave the Partisans without telling them they were leaving, which they did. Thompson was made finance officer at Bari, and Tofte was sort of kept on the shelf in the background. At this time I requested transfer to another theater of operations immediately. It is my understanding that my request did not go forward through channels the way it should have done by military regulation. Colonels Toulmin and West were called in from Cairo to handle what was referred to at that time as the "Tofte-Thompson-Hamilton situation." Their decision was that Thompson and myself were to remain in

Bari and Tofte to proceed to Cairo for further assignment. This situation was intolerable but we obeyed orders. Lt. Ellen was again assigned to the Shipping Operation in order that one SBS officer who was capable might represent us.

IV. On approximately January 20, Major Koch commissioned me to procure, equip, man and operate a small Italian fishing vessel which would be capable of running agents and small quantities of materiel to the Albanian coast at night. At this time there were ten ex-Royal Yugoslav Navy motor torpedo boats tied up in Brindisi doing nothing. They had been seized by the Italians when Italy declared war on Yugoslavia, and due to British high politics were never released to the Partisans who needed them vitally.

Therefore, after considerable hokus-pokus and argument with British and Italian authorities, we requisitioned a 50-foot Italian fishing boat capable of a maximum of eight knots. I secured a very capable Partisan crew, and in about two weeks' time we were based at the port of Otranto, ready for operation. For the first two trips we were forced to go unarmed because the SBS supply department said they could not get machine guns. Between the 15th of February and the first of April we made 10 trips to Albania and to the Greek islands north of Corfu. However, after about three trips, the British Royal Navy let us know that it was against their policy for what they termed "a private navy" to operate in British waters. Therefore, they began making it extremely difficult to carry out our operations as planned by the Albanian and Greek desks in Bari.

On one occasion, we were unloading at our pin-point near Cape Linquette, which was a very treacherous coast, and the following incident occurred: We had off-loaded seven tons of rifles and ammunition and one OSS mission when I was informed by the British officer in charge on the beach

that we must take away with us 60 Italian soldiers and two officers who had escaped from Greece, and who were jeopardizing the security of the British Mission at this pin-point.

We were in an exposed position with the moon, near full, due to rise in an hour. We had passed two German E-boats on the way in. However, we agreed to load these men, or at least as many as we could before 2 a.m., at which time it was imperative that we leave in order to reach the mine fields off Italy by daylight. I returned from the beach to the vessel with 9 Italians, and assumed the British would supervise the embarkation of the balance of the men from the beach. The sea was increasing, and for 45 minutes we lay within 40 feet of rock cliffs on either side and waiting for the boats to come off. Repeated attempts to signal the shore were not answered. Finally I took Platoon Sgt. John Harnicker of the Marine Corps and went in to see what was the matter. The surf was very heavy, and we swamped the boat going in. However, the boat was not damaged.

Upon arrival I found six bodies by a cave, and the balance of the Italians huddled around their officers. These six had drowned while trying to get through the surf, and it developed that the entire British mission, some dozen men, had gone off to their camp and left no one to supervise the loading. We sent a message to the British Major in charge, and he sent back his Sgt. saying that he was too busy to come down.

Therefore, with the time having run out, I told the senior Italian officer I would take five more men and return to the ship. After four attempts we made it, and at this time I discovered both the Italian officers had deserted their men to get back to Italy. My first mate, who was a Partisan Captain, and spoke Italian fluently, ordered the Italian officers to go back to their men, but they refused. Therefore, the mate beat them both up with a piece of wood that was handy.

We then departed for Italy and made the return trip without event. After this I contacted the Albanian desk in Bari, and told them that unless we were to have the full cooperation of the British on the reception end, that it was foolish to risk property and good manpower on such an operation. While this was being thrashed out we made three more trips to an island North of Corfu and finally it was decided that the British would take the operation over altogether and put it in their shipping pool. This would not have been necessary had SBS really fought for its rightful participation in what was called "Allied effort."

V. For three weeks following this I was in hospital with jaundice. My next assignment was on Operation DRAVO, working with Lt. Thompson, who had finally been allowed to return to operational work after having done penance as finance officer all this while. The mission of the Dravo Operation was conceived entirely by Lt. Thompson, and it is a great testimonial to his ability that the following series of events took place. Thompson worked out a detailed implementation plan with the aid of Lt. Mike Mitchell, and presented it to Major Koch.

Major Koch was not particularly enthused, but agreed to pass it on to the British for approval, even though he said it was impracticable. This operation, I assume, is fully covered elsewhere, but briefly, it was to be a coordinated attack on German lines of communication in northern Yugoslavia through which practically all German materiel and personnel would eventually have to retreat. Brigadier General Miles, in command of all operations in Yugoslavia, was called in, and Lt. Thompson presented the plan in full detail. The Brigadier was obviously impressed by it, and said that he was amazed that such an operation should have been conceived by SBS, because it fitted in absolutely perfectly with a very large-scale British operation known as SLUMBERLAND that he was working on. Thompson was adamant that in

this operation American personnel should have a clear-cut, precise portion of the whole job, and would be responsible for carrying out same. Major Koch did not think this was particularly important, but fortunately Commander Green, who at this time relieved him, saw the thing the same way Thompson did, and we went ahead on that basis.

The first phase of this operation was to run approximately 40 tons of explosives and materiel into the northern Dalmation coast, from which point they would be carted to the various objectives. I was authorized to proceed on a reconnaissance trip to determine the best route for such supplies to move over. On about June 15, in company with Sgt. Hernicker, I proceeded to Vis via Partisan steamer. At this time there was no Allied personnel in the northern islands, but we soon found that the British were planning to send missions up, and it looked to us suspiciously like they did not want to be left out of anything.

We travelled north nighttimes on small Partisan launches which were forced to hide in the day time in coves with pine trees camouflaging them. These boats were ordinarily fishing boats which had been converted into what the Yugoslavs laughingly called the "Partisan Navy." Their armor plate was two partitions of boards filled in with rocks, and a number of captured anti-tank guns and Bredas were mounted when possible. During the three weeks trip we covered the entire route, contacting local Partisan commands who were jubilant over such a proposed operation.

They offered to cooperate in every way, supplying us boats, manpower, camouflaged dumps and whatever we needed. Over this section of the coast there was no Allied air cover, but the only German planes which were active were obsolete training planes from which 50-lb. fragmentation bombs were thrown by hand. We worked out a tentative operation schedule, and, before returning, the Partisans had detailed loading gangs and boats to be used over the entire 250 mile route. They even contacted their men on the mainland who were to

pack the materiel over the Velebit Mts. from which point pack animals could take it the rest of the way. Upon returning to Bari I found that by a series of diplomatic twists the entire operation had passed into British hands, and SBS was to have no part in it whatsoever. At this point I again requested transfer into another theater with the same result as before.

VI. For the following six weeks I was assigned to various prospective operations, none of which materialized. However, in the beginning of August I was assigned to the operation HACIENDA, attached to the 15th Air Force Air Rescue Unit. Our job was to land in central Croatia and proceed in the general direction of the Hungarian border, picking up airmen who had been shot down while returning from bombing missions. We landed in Partisan 4th Corps HQ area on August 22. I was accompanied by Sgt. Hernicker and Radioman 3rd Class Rajacic. After a conference with the Partisan Corps Command and with Captain George Selvig, who was the senior Allied officer in this mission and who was doing a very fine job of work, it was decided we would proceed overland to the 6th Corps in Slovenia.

We started out with a Partisan Battalion, and as far as the Sava river had their unlimited cooperation. Whenever it was necessary to cross the German lines they readily detached up to three battalions to make the crossing possible, one battalion attacking on either flank while we went across in the middle of the third. We found the troops as a whole to be very ill-equipped. Approximately one-third had shoes, and as a rule there was one blanket for every two men. However, their spirit was magnificent, and they showed remarkable training and discipline. Our only method of repayment was with cigarettes, of which we had some 70 cartons.

Upon arrival at Slavonia Headquarters we met a situation which is rather typical of all OSS operations in Yugoslavia. Upon reaching this point we were greeted by 10 OSS men, complete with paratroop boots, insignia,

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and enough equipment for at least a Partisan Battalion. They had landed there ostensibly to get into Hungary. However, there was no set plan as to how they would get there, and it developed that the border was so strongly held they could not go any further. Therefore, after living off the Partisans for upwards of three weeks, they flew back to Bari. It is this kind of operation which makes an American really look foolish. The Partisans are absolutely unable to understand how or even why we operate.

We found no airmen in this vicinity so decided to push on to the northeast, paralleling the Hungarian border until we had reached Slovenia. The journey was somewhat complicated by the presence of the infamous Cossack division, of which nothing was known in Bari. This division of some 9,000 men was beautifully equipped and 100 per cent mounted, and enjoyed the reputation of being the most fanatical opposition the Partisans met in all Yugoslavia. However, due to Partisan knowledge and experience, we were passed through without incident.

Upon arrival in 10th Corps (about 45 miles east of Zagreb), we found it impossible to go further north, as the Germans were beginning to evacuate Zagreb, because at this time the Russians were coming through the Iron gate and into Serbia. As was usually the case, the Partisans showed considerable regard for our safety. They were at all times reluctant to see Allied personnel go on anything that was really dangerous, and in this instance they sent two battalions against the German line, both of which were repulsed with heavy losses. Over a period of two weeks we collected nine airmen who had been shot down close to the Hungarian border and brought in by the Partisans. It is standard operating procedure with the Partisans that they are to sacrifice 15 men for one of our airmen if need be. This has been consistently carried out.

These men were evacuated via American aircraft to Italy. It was

It was interesting to note that wherever American aircraft landed regularly, unless American personnel was present on the ground, the British had told the local people that both the planes and the personnel in them were British. Also the British were very clever in sending in to the Partisans only equipment which had a certain British look about it. We spent a good deal of the time opening up battle dress to show the Partisans the words, "Philadelphia, Pennsylvania," which was on nine-tenths of it.

Due to the fact that we could not go further, and that the air field was under control of an RAF mission, it was decided in Bari to evacuate our entire mission. This was done by B-25 in the afternoon of September 26 without event. Upon return to Italy I received orders to report to Washington for reassignment.

In looking back over my relation with the Partisans, one thing is very strong in my mind. At the beginning, merely by the fact that we were American, we found ourselves in an enormously strong position. Every place I have been there was a very sincere and widespread affection and respect for anything American. However, toward the end of our work there was a noticeable change, which I believe, was because the people were bewildered by our lack of a concrete policy.

We came in there promising big things, and in the long run did almost nothing, in spite of the sincere efforts of a group of junior officers, and particularly of men such as the late Major Linn Farish, Major Carl Coon, Eli Popovich, Tofte, Thompson and many, many others too numerous to mention. The net result has been that our position in the Balkans has deteriorated immeasurably. All of it might not be so bad if we had learned some lessons from it, but in Italy today, after about a year of experience, those officers in control are even more befuddled than they were at the outset.

Another very serious thing has been the question of the morale of the junior officers and enlisted men who were in Italy. With few exceptions, every last man was there because he wanted to do a job, and after a period of weeks and months and months of idleness or futile, proposed operations, the morale situation was one best described as tragic.

Sometime last Spring the so-called "Goodfellow Mission" came through and interviewed everybody at some length. On the Island of Vis they were met by junior officers who carried notes of complaints written out so that they might not forget anything. Most of these complaints were directed against their commanding officers. Approximately a month later their commanding officer was promoted to Colonel, and the men were dispersed to various headquarters. The result of this is that all men coming back from the Middle East Theater find it next to impossible to believe any glowing promises as to future operations in the Far East. Upon arrival here one is told that the situation is "different," but this is almost impossible to believe.

It requires no great ability to look ahead and see that in both China and Spain there will be pretty much a repetition of all that transpired in Yugoslavia. I feel that the sooner we realize that this war is one of National Liberation for the heretofore fascist governed peoples of the world, the sooner our war effort will reach its maximum of effectiveness.

OSS in particular is in a position to foster these Peoples Movements in their fight for freedom.

SEPARATION PROCESS
(Please Type or Print)

Date Interviewed 26 Nov OSS Branch R.A. Put in Pool YES NO

Name of Interviewer Carmi

Name JOHN - HAMILTON Rank Capt. ASN 0-22085
(First) (Init) (Last)

Date of Birth _____ Arm of Service _____ Source of Comm. USMC Auth. to live in Town _____

Present Address _____ Phone _____

Home Address _____ Phone _____

Length of Service Overseas 23 mos Months Service 37

No. of Points 81 Desires to remain in Army NO

Duty performed with OSS _____

FOR ACTION: MOS _____
Changed to _____

Recommendation: Trf. To _____ Br. Control # _____
Trf. To Naval Command Refers to Naval Command

COMMENTS: Refers to Naval Command for separation

FINAL ACTION: Return to Army _____ For Rotation and Reassignment _____
For Reassignment _____ Discharge on Age _____
Discharge on Pts. ✓ Discharge (Other) _____

FILE REFERRED TO: M. Harper

PROCESSING: Date Processed _____

Disposition:
Trf. out to Hq. _____ Date _____
File to Returnee Sect. _____ Date _____
File to File Sect. _____ Date _____

~~SECRET~~

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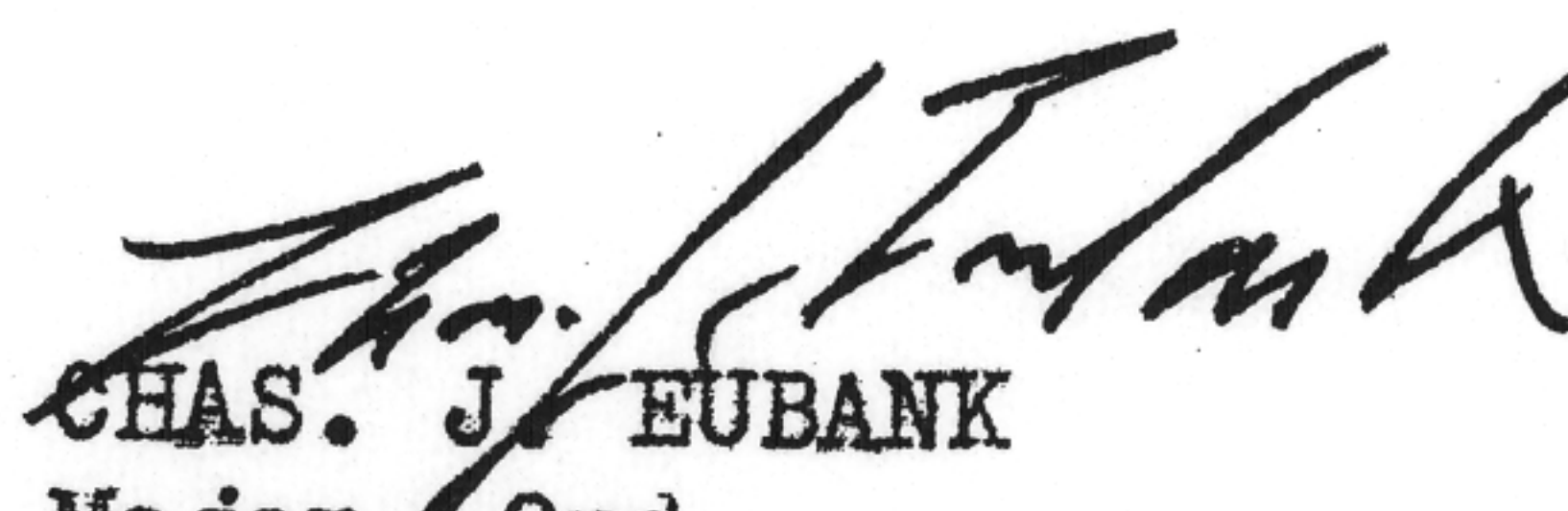
OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES

INTEROFFICE MEMO

TO: Mr. Whitney H. Shepardson
FROM: Major Charles J. Eubank
SUBJECT: 1st Lt. John Hamilton, USMCR

DATE: 3 January 1945

In reply to your request of this morning, I beg to advise you that Lt. Hamilton, as Chief of two missions operating behind enemy lines, served as liaison with guerrilla leaders in Yugoslavia, obtaining valuable intelligence and liquidating air targets.


CHAS. J. EUBANK
Major Ord.
Operations Officer, ESO

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES

WASHINGTON, D. C.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDIVIDUAL	2
<input type="checkbox"/> GROUP	
NUMBER IN GROUP.....	

18247

1. THIS PAGE TO BE RETAINED IN FILES.

Date January 12 19 452. OF: SI
(Office or Branch)3. By Charles E. Ford
(Travel Sponsor)Tel. 2287
ext.Room 2266Bldg. Que

4. SUBJECT: DATES OF APPROVALS RECEIVED BY TRAVEL SPONSOR.

Overseas transportation and orders have been requested for each individual specified in this form to travel under the conditions and to the destination described below:

5. Traveler or group leader Hamilton John 1st Lt USMCR 0-22085
(Last name) (First name) (Initial) (Rank/Grade) (Service) (Serial number)

6. Address (Residence or quarters) prior to departure Apt. 946 - 2430 16th Street, N. W. Tel. No. DU-9056
(Number) (Street) (City)

7. Official station Washington, DC Starting point Washington, DC Availability or readiness date Jan. 30 10. Travel Air
(Air, sea)

11. Destination and itinerary From Washington, DC to Paris, France.

12. Change of station Permanent From Washington, DC To Paris, France
(Permanent or temporary) (Office or Branch, and location or station) (Office or Branch, and location or station)

13. Reporting for duty to G.O.I. Paris, France Returning to On
(Approx. date)

14. Travel considered Routine 15. Expenses paid from Vouchered funds. 16. Estimated expense, \$ 250 17. Allotment Acct. 2101-45
(Routine or secret) (Vouchered or special) (to be charged)

18. Identification with OSS is authorized. 19. Official courier designation is not requested for 1st Lt John Hamilton
(Is) (Is not) (Is) (Is not) (Specify name of individual or individuals)

20. Equipment to be taken ☒ .45 Caliber Pistol and Accessories. Other equipment None
(For military personnel only) (Specify or attach table of equipment)

21. Civilian clothing (for service personnel) is not authorized. 22. Excess baggage allowance in the amount of None lbs. is requested
(Is) (Is not) (In excess of 55 lbs. by air, 175 lbs. by sea)

PRIOR TO DEPARTURE THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS WILL HAVE BEEN MET

23. Documents: (Passports and visas; draft board, exit, and re-entry permits; Special Orders, etc.) ☒ Not required; ☐ Obtained.

24. Medical examinations and immunization completed ☒

Approvals on signed pages of this request have been received from the following officials:

Finance Officer, dated 1/19; Theater Officer, dated 1/19; Security Office dated 1/19

Sent to Trans - 1/19 Navy Air Transportation

APPROVED

TRAVEL SPONSOR—

Signature

Date January 12, 1945

OFFICE OR BRANCH CHIEF—

Signature

Date January 12, 1945

W. T. H. Beale, Jr., U.S.N.R.

By Direction

THEATER COMMANDER—

Cable date

"CM-IN" No.

Target date

Priority designation

Space below is for use of Transportation Office only

Transportation Office No. 5432-M

Group No.

Section No.

SECRET

16-38453-1

~~SECRET~~

STUDENT BACKGROUND RECORD

STUDENT'S BLUE SHEET

(This form fully completed in duplicate must accompany request for admission of student.)

Student Name: John Date: 12 January 1945

Age: 28 Marital Status: Married Nationality: American

Branch: SI Desk: ETO
(SI, SO, MO, X-2) (ETO, METO, NETO, FETO)

Theater to which Student is going: ETO
(Europe, Mediterranean, Southeast Asia, China, Burma, India.)

For Consultation Call:

Captain Vaughn Speltz

Training Liaison Officer

478

Phone Extension

If the above officer is not available, call:

B. Homer Hall

Desk Officer Supervising Student

2609

Phone Extension

Mission: Military
(Undercover; Desk; Group Leader; Group Operator, etc.)

Type of Cover: Military
(Military; Govt. Official; Professional; Business; etc.)

What type of work is this candidate to do? liaison with foreign underground Governments

What special qualifications do you wish this candidate tested for? General

What special tests are to be given candidate? (e.g., radio aptitude, teaching, etc.)

Name: John Hamilton
Rank: 1st Lt. ASN: O-22086 Arm of Service: USMCR
Personal Background of Student: Merchant Marine

Education: X (High School) (College) (Grad. Work) Where: USA
USA, other.

Present Occupation: OSS Where: USA, overseas
USA, other.

Previous Occupation: Seaman (Indicate general classification) Where: USA
USA, other.

Foreign Residence or Travel: Around the world twice
(Be specific; include dates if possible)

Any known special interests or hobbies: firearms, sailing
(What interests the student has other than

his occupation; what he does in his free time)

Indicate knowledge of foreign languages:
("Slight", "Fair", "Good".)

	<u>Read</u>	<u>Speak</u>	<u>Write</u>
<u>French</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Good</u>
<u>Spanish</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>

S E C R E T


TO: Lt.(jg) John Howley.

DATE: 13 January 1945.

FROM: Chief, SI.

SUBJECT: Transfer of 1st Lt. John Hamilton, USMCR.

1. It is requested that 1st Lt. John Hamilton, USMCR,
Serial No. 022085, be transferred from SI-METO to SI-ETO.

Chief, SI.

APPROVED:

Personnel Officer, SI

Security Office

STUDENT TRAINING RECORD

18247
DATE: 13 January 1945

1. NAME: HAMILTON, John
2. NAME AND SERIAL NUMBER: 1st Lt. - 0-22085, USMCR
3. STUDENT NAME: "JOHN"
4. SECURITY APPROVAL: _____
5. SCHOOLS TO ATTEND: _____

Station W - Tuesday, 16 January 1945 - Class W-196

6. FORM #2708 (T or S) Attached: _____
7. Student informed of reports required: _____
8. Return to Washington or not: _____
9. Leave arrangements: _____

Home address: _____

B. Homer Hall
Division, SI

10. Medical Examination: 15 January 1945
11. Inoculations Scheduled: _____
12. Domestic Travel Requested: _____ DATE: _____
13. Engagement Sheet (if civilian): Not applicable
14. Per Diem: _____
15. Clothing Form: _____
16. Training Completed: _____ DATE: _____
17. Turned back to Division: _____ DATE: _____

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DATE: 19 January 1945

TO: Mr. Charles E. Ford.
FROM: A. van Beuren, Security Officer. *W.B. by sub*
SUBJECT: Overseas Travel Approval

In reply to your request of 13 January 1945, the following subject is hereby approved for overseas travel:

HAMILTON, John, 1st Lt., USMC, 4635

Two photos of subject **not** requested.

A completed fingerprint card is **not** requested

The overseas travel approval granted in this letter expires ninety days from date. Extension of this approval beyond expiration date will be determined by the Security Office, upon request.

Subject is not authorized to carry classified documents overseas.

REMARKS:

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~SECRET~~

Office of the Commander - in - Chief
HEADQUARTERS MEDITERRANEAN ALLIED AIR FORCES
A. P. O. 650

John Hamilton

201.22

25 APR 1945

SUBJECT: Commendation.

TO : Colonel Edward J. F. Glavin, 2677th Regt OSS (Prov),
APO 512, U. S. Army.

THRU : Commanding General, MTOUSA, APO 512, U. S. Army.

1. I wish to commend you and the following named individuals for their superior performance of duty while assisting in the establishment and operation of the Air Crew Rescue unit teams in enemy-occupied territory:

1st Sgt. John Hamilton 0-2208501, USMC
Platoon Sgt. John J. Harnicker, Jr. 230581, USMC
RM 3/c Joe Rajacic 725-92-20, USN
M/Sgt. Joseph P. Bradshaw 20241726, USA
Cpl. Arthur S. Kern 35535624, USA

2. The courageous and efficient manner in which these numerous tasks were performed afforded the Allies an expeditious and effective means for the return of several air crews to friendly territory.

3. In addition to the individuals listed above, I should like to commend the members of the Dawes team who did such splendid work in assembling and evacuating Allied airmen from Czechoslovakia.

4. On behalf of all of my command, I cannot too strongly express appreciation and gratitude for the magnificent deeds accomplished by your officers and enlisted men who worked so conscientiously, diligently and arduously in these most difficult assignments. Their courageous endeavor has earned the respect of all.

John K. Cannon
JOHN K. CANNON
Lieutenant General, USA
Commanding
Am

~~SECRET~~

FIELD PHOTOGRAPHIC BRANCH
OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES
APO 887

24 May, 1945

FROM: Chief of Branch

To : The Adjutant, O.S.S.

Subj: HAMILTON, John J. Capt. O-220851, U.S.M.C.R. request
for transfer of

1. It is requested that the subject named officer be transferred to the Field Photographic Branch to carry out the assignment of field officer in charge of intelligence photographic documentation project team.
2. Verbal concurrence has been granted by Mr. Harold Deutsch, chief of the R&A Branch to which Capt. Hamilton is presently assigned.
3. Authorization for Captaincy is contained in cable No. 12954 dated 30 April, 1945. It is requested that orders and clearances be immediately cut pending transfer procedure to send Capt. Hamilton to the Bremen-Hamburg areas to carry out an urgent operational assignment.

M. E. ARMISTEAD,
LIEUT. USNR

~~RESTRICTED~~

HQ & HQ DETACHMENT
OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES
European Theater of Operations
United States Army
(MAIN)

FP BRANCH

PERSONNEL ASSIGNMENT)

APC 413

ORDER NUMBER 21)

28 May 1945

1. Gerritt J. Tenhoor, civilian, is relieved from assignment to Director's Office and is assigned to MO Branch.

2. VOCO issued and effective 19 May 45, relieving Virginia F. Champlin, civilian, from assignment to SI Branch and assigning her to Director's Office, are hereby confirmed and made of record.

3. Edith Sperry, civilian, is relieved from assignment to SO Branch and is assigned to X-2 Branch.

4. Pursuant to verbal concurrence CG, 6th US Army Group, the VOCO issued and effective 28 Apr 45, placing the following named civilians on DS with Hq 6th US Army Group for duty with OSS Field Det, Hq 6th US Army Group (Fwd) SCI Sec, are hereby confirmed and made of record:

Margaret W. Evans

Barbara J. Freeman

5. VOCO issued and effective 30 Apr 45, relieving the following named civilians from assignment to station at Hq & Hq Det, O of Strategic Sv, European TO, (Forward) APC 887, USA, and assigning them to station at Field Base "X", are hereby confirmed and made of record:

Edmund Reiss

Howard P. Becker

6. Comdr THOMAS G. CASSADY, 122862, USNR, is relieved from assignment to SI Branch and is assigned to Director's Office.

7. Pursuant to verbal concurrence CG, 6th US Army Group, the VOCO issued and effective 30 Apr 45, relieving Thomas Stonborough, civilian, from DS with Hq 6th US Army Group and duty with OSS Field Det, Hq 6th US Army Group (Fwd) SI Sec, and pursuant to verbal concurrence CG, Delta Base Sec, placing him on DS with Delta Base Sec for duty with OSS Det #44, are hereby confirmed and made of record.

8. Pursuant to verbal concurrence CG, 7th US Army, the VOCO issued and effective 5 May 45, relieving Lt ALEXANDER B. MALEY, 135301, USNR, from DS with Hq 7th US Army and duty with SSS, G-2, and placing him on DS with Hq 6th US Army Group for duty with OSS Field Det, Hq 6th US Army Group (Fwd) SCI Sec, are hereby confirmed and made of record.

~~RESTRICTED~~

(Personnel Assignment Order #21, Hq & Hq Det, O of Strategic Sv, European TO, (MAIN)
APO 413, USA, ltd 28 May 45, Contd)

10. Pursuant to verbal concurrence CG, 1st US Army, the VOCO issued and effective 5 May 45, relieving Capt JOHN HAMILTON, 022085, USMCR, from DS with Hq 1st US Army and duty with OSS Field Det, and assigning him to station at Hq & Hq Det, O of Strategic Sv, European TO, (Forward) APO 887, USA, are hereby confirmed and made of record.

11. VOCO issued and effective 5 May 45, relieving the following named personnel from assignment to station at Hq & Hq Det, O of Strategic Sv, European TO, (Forward) APO 887, USA, and assigning them to station with OSS Mission to Germany, are hereby confirmed and made of record:

Lt Comdr FRANK G. WISNER	105905 USNR	C.B. MacPherson	Civilian
Lt LLOYD V. JACQUET	381511 USNR	Lucius O. Eastman	Civilian
Harold C. Deutsch	Civilian		

12. Pursuant to verbal concurrence CG, 12th US Army Group, the VOCO issued and effective 8 May 45, placing Gy Sgt Allen I. Cushing, 358342, USMC, on DS with Hq 12th US Army Group for duty with OSS Field Det, Hq 12th US Army Group, SCI Sec, are hereby confirmed and made of record.

13. Having been transferred to this Hq, Eric Vesely, civilian, is assigned to SI Branch with station at Hq & Hq Det, O of Strategic Sv, European TO, (Forward) APO 887, USA.

14. The following named civilians are relieved from assignment to SI Branch and are assigned to Director's Office:


Edward W. Erne

Dorothy M. Runyon

15. Lt (jg) JOHN B. MARTIN, 380998, USNR, is relieved from assignment to X-2 Branch and is assigned to Director's Office.

16. VOCO issued and effective 8 May 45, relieving Edward W. Erne, civilian, from assignment to station at Hq & Hq Det, O of Strategic Sv, European TO, (Forward) APO 887, USA, and assigning him to station at Field Base "N", are hereby confirmed and made of record.

By order of Colonel FORGAN:


GEO H. ANDREWS,
Major, AGD,
Adjutant.

DISTRIBUTION: "B", "D" & "P"

~~RESTRICTED~~

~~RESTRICTED~~

HQ & HQ DETACHMENT
OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES
European Theater of Operations
United States Army
(MAIN)

BRANCH

Hamilton file

PERSONNEL ASSIGNMENT)

APC 413

ORDER NUMBER 23)

7 June 1945

1. The following named civilians, branches indicated, are relieved from assignment to station at this Hq and are assigned to station at Hq & Hq Det, O of Strategic Sv, European TO, (Forward) APC 887, USA;

Otto W. Brodnitz	SI	F. Annabelle Mattox	Dir O
Otto R.J. Froelicher	SI	Severin Kaven	SI

2. Having reported to this Hq on TD, William D. Whitney, civilian, is attached to Dir O.

3. Having reported to this Hq, the following named civilians are assigned to branches indicated:

Philip K. Baldwin	SO	Stanley Baron	SI
Robert W. Tucker	SI		

4. VOCO issued and effective 11 May 45, relieving the following named civilians, SI Branch, from assignment to station at Hq & Hq Det, O of Strategic Sv, European TO, (Forward) APC 887, USA, and assigning them to station at Field Base "X", are hereby confirmed and made of record:

Mary T. Curio

Dorothy A. Moore

5. VOCO issued and eff 11 May 45, relieving Donald S. King, civilian, SO Branch, from assignment to station at Hq & Hq Det, O of Strategic Sv, European TO, (Forward) APC 887, USA, and assigning him to sta at Field Base "N", are hereby confirmed and made of record.

6. VOCO issued and effective 11 May 45, relieving Capt JOHN HAMILTON, 022085, USMCR, from assignment to SI Branch and assigning him to R&A Branch, are hereby confirmed and made of record.

7. Pursuant to verbal concurrence CG, 6th US Army Gp, the VOCO issued and effective 12 May 45, placing Jane W. Burrell, civilian, X-2 Branch, on DS with Hq 6th US Army for duty with OSS Field Det, Hq 6th US Army Group (Fwd)SCI Sec, are hereby confirmed and made of record.

8. Pursuant to verbal concurrence CG, 1st US Army, the VOCO issued and effective 12 May 45, relieving the following named personnel, branches indicated, from DS with Hq 1st US Army and duty with OSS Field Det, and assigning them to station at Field Base "X", are hereby confirmed and made of record:

Lt EDGAR M. HOOVER

343932 USNR R&A Tania Daniell

Civilian Dir O

- 1 -

~~RESTRICTED~~

~~RESTRICTED~~

(Personnel Assignment Order #23, Hq & Hq Det, O of Strategic Sv, European TO, (MAIN)
APO 413, USA, dtd 7 Jun 45, Contd)

9. Pursuant to verbal concurrence CG, Delta Base Sec, the VOCO issued and effective 16 May 45, relieving the following named civilians, X-2 Branch, from DS with Delta Base Sec and duty with OSS/SCI Det #88, and assigning them to station at Hq & Hq Det, O of Strategic Sv, European TO, (Forward) APO 887, USA, are hereby confirmed and made of record;

Bette Lussier

Nita Lussier

10. VOCO issued and effective 16 May 45, relieving Willis D. George, civilian, SI Branch, from assignment to station at Field Base "C", and assigning him to station at this Hq, are hereby confirmed and made of record.

11. Pursuant to verbal concurrence CG, 3rd US Army, the VOCO issued and effective 16 May 45, placing Eric Vesely, civilian, SI Branch, on DS with Hq 3rd US Army for duty with OSS Field Det, are hereby confirmed and made of record.

12. The following named civilians, branches indicated, are relieved from assignment to station at this Hq and are assigned to station with OSS Mission to Norway:

Philip L. Boardman
Solveig M. Mack

SI
SI

Andreas Elviken

R&A

13. The following named civilians, branches indicated, are relieved from assignment to station at this Hq and are assigned to station with OSS Mission to Denmark:

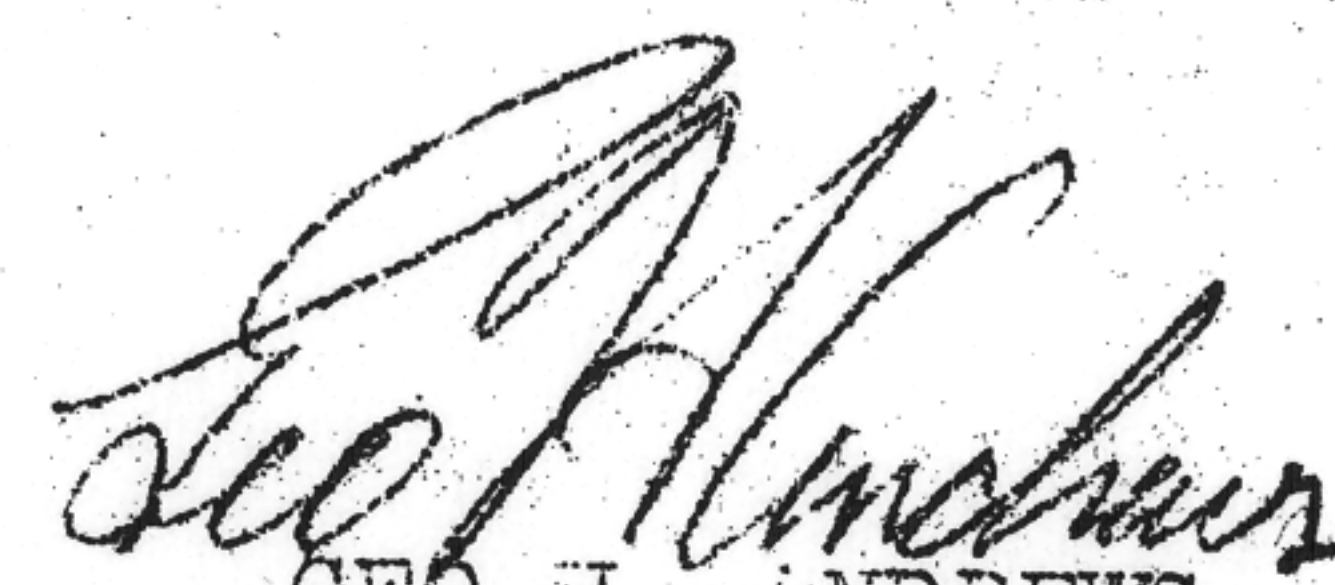
Abel R. Sorenson

SI

Svend Laursen

R&A

By order of Colonel FORGAN:


GEO H. ANDREWS,
Major, ACD,
Adjutant.

DISTRIBUTION: "B", "D" & "P"

~~RESTRICTED~~

O/R File it

Commanding Officer, Naval Command,
Room 211, South Building
Personnel Branch

26 Nov 1945

Transfer of Personnel

1. The following named personnel are surplus, and it is requested that they be transferred out of Strategic Services Unit, or discharged, whichever is applicable:

1st Lt. William B. Macomber, USMC	032941
Capt. John Hamilton, USMC	022085
2d Lt. Nick R. Cesty, USMC	039450
1st Lt. Clarence J. Lewis, USMC	035590

For the Chief, Personnel Branch:

E. P. HARPER, JR.
CWC, USA

cc: Security Office
Statistical Section

APPOINTMENT SLIP

TIME 1600 DATE 26 Nov 45
Hamilton John Capt 022083 ETU
 NAME RANK ASN THEATER

IS AUTHORIZED TO SEE

Branch Representative

AT

Room

Bldg.

ON THIS DATE.

PPB Representative

RELEASED BY

PER

Branch Representative

RECOMMENDED DISPOSITION

REMARKS

SUBJECT WILL RETURN COMPLETED SLIP TO ROOM 109 NORTH BUILDING AFTER BRANCH
 INTERVIEW.

Penny

Before approval of memo, contact SI
Branch (Capt Luby) to see when we can
send to Maj Murray for interview.
We will not approve memo until Murray
interviewed.

3 Feb 1945

MPH

Man has sailed for Mexico - 5 Feb

Approved per Capt Luby

By Penny

OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES
Washington, D. C.

*Card +
file -*

TO: Lt. (jg) John Howley.

DATE: 13 January 1945.

FROM: Chief, SI.

SUBJECT: Transfer of 1st Lt. John Hamilton, USMCR.

1. It is requested that 1st Lt. John Hamilton, USMCR,
Serial No. 022085, be transferred from SI-METO to SI-ETO.

/s/ Whitney H. Shepardson
Chief, SI

APPROVED:

/s/ W. E. Walker
Personnel Officer, SI

Andrew W. Sexton by direction
for the Security Officer

/s/ Carl Adams Jr.
Capt Sig C for ETO & METO

2nd - 6 Feb
PPB

PACS

CONFIDENTIAL

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF WAR
STRATEGIC SERVICES UNIT

25th & E STREETS, N.W.
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

28 February 1946

SUBJECT: Recommendation for Captain John Hamilton, USMCR

TO : The Citations Officer

ATTENTION: Captain House

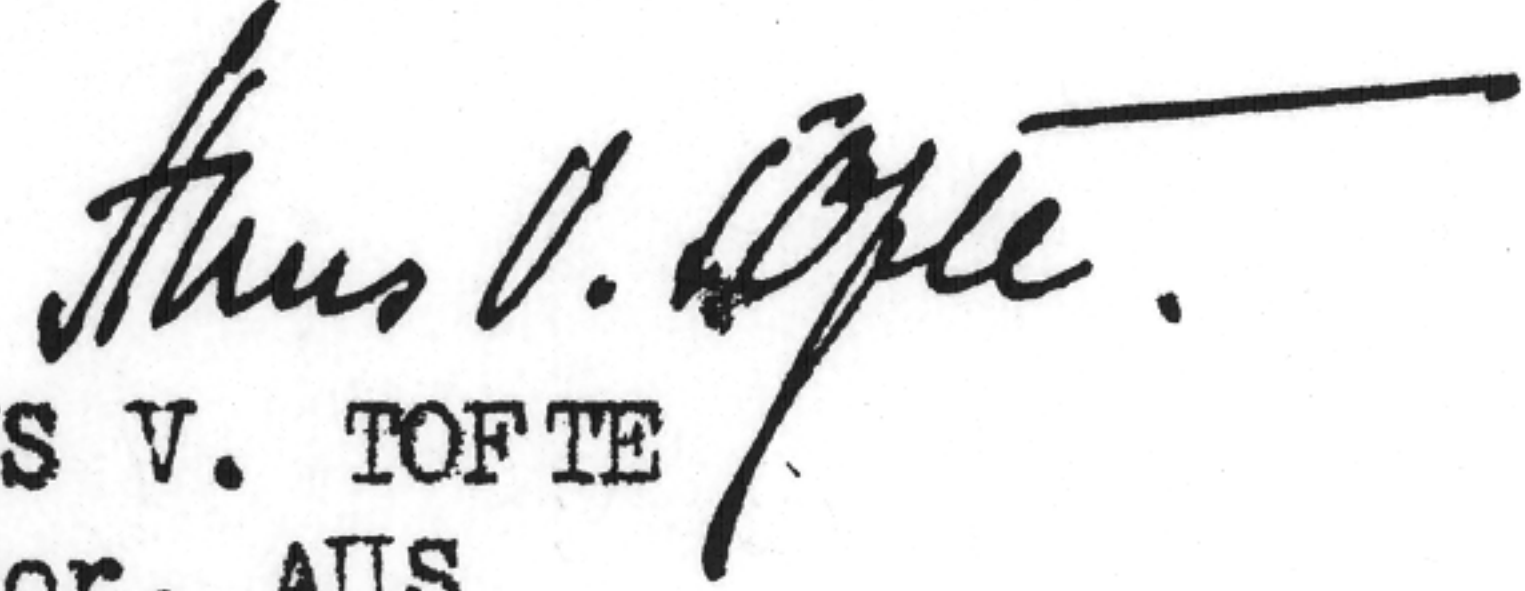
1. Enclosed please find recommendation for the award of the Silver Star Medal to Captain John Hamilton, USMCR, who was assigned to an operational OSS unit in Italy in 1943 under my command.

2. I had arranged with Lt. Donovan before her departure that this recommendation, as well as a subsequent one which I hope to send in in a few days, should be expedited as much as possible, the more so considering the time which has passed since the services in question were performed.

3. I am not quite certain that the present write-up is actually in the proper form in which such communications should be forwarded to the Adjutant General, accompanied by a covering letter from the Commanding Officer, SSU. If the present write-up does not meet the requirements, I should be very grateful if you would correct it in your office for my signature. (My extension is 2438, and I should thank you to call me without delay in case you deem it necessary to make any alterations.)

4. For your information, please note that Captain John Hamilton's real name is: Sterling Hayden, whose permanent address is c/o Mrs. Hayden, Wilson Point, South Norwalk, Connecticut. He entered active duty on 26 October 1942 in New York City. He operated under my command in Italy during the period mentioned in the attached recommendation, and as regards official OSS records covering the services in question, I can refer you to my report to the Deputy Director, OSS, SO, dated 1 April 1944, at Washington, D. C.

5. As mentioned above, I am planning to send in a recommendation for Lt. (j.g.) Ward Evelyn Ellen, USNR, who also played a prominent part in early OSS operations in the Adriatic period.


HANS V. TOFTE
Major, AUS

18247-278

28 February 1946

SUBJECT: Recommendation for Captain John Hamilton, USMCR

TO : The Citations Officer

ATTENTION: Captain House

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HANS V. TOFTE
Major, AUS

26 February 1946

SUBJECT: Recommendation for Award of the Silver Star Medal to
Captain John Hamilton, USMC

TO : The Director, Strategic Services Unit, Washington, D. C.

1. It is recommended that Captain John Hamilton, O-22085, USMC, be awarded the Silver Star Medal for exceptional meritorious service and gallantry in action while assigned to a Strategic Services operational unit in MEDTO from December 1943 to February 1944, inclusive.

2. Captain John Hamilton (then a 1st Lieutenant) was assigned to the OSS, SO Shipping Operation based at Bari and Monopoli, Italy, in December 1943. This unit established the initial American contact with Marshal Tito's National Liberation Army in Yugoslavia by landing from small naval surface craft on the German-occupied coast of Dalmatia and penetrating through enemy lines to several of the most important headquarters of Tito's forces. After negotiations with Tito and his staff and after having obtained the necessary authority from the Allied Commander-in-Chief, the unit established shipping bases on the coast of Italy, collected a fleet of some 40 Yugoslav steamships and sailing vessels, procured cargoes of arms, ammunition, food and clothing as well as medical supplies, and organized a clandestine supply line across the Adriatic Sea, penetrating the German sea and air blockade along the Balkan coastline and landing in all some 7,000 tons of vitally needed war supplies for the National Liberation Army of Yugoslavia.

3. Owing to the timing as well as the local conditions in connection with the military situation in this particular area, the immediate results of this operation placed the German forces in Dalmatia at a great disadvantage and served to enhance the activities of Tito's forces in Dalmatia to a very considerable degree. The unit made 70 sailings altogether across the Adriatic, losing only four ships in spite of intensified enemy action on land, at sea and in the air along the clandestine supply line. Furthermore, the few American officers engaged in commanding and supervising the above-mentioned supply operations made more than a dozen armed reconnaissance

penetrations deep into enemy territory in Yugoslavia and collected a substantial amount of original and at that time exceedingly valuable intelligence covering both German order of battle and the complete order of battle of Tito's Partisans in Yugoslavia.

4. On 24 December 1943, Captain John Hamilton (then 1st Lieutenant) was ordered to proceed by surface craft to the Islands of Korcula, Vis, Hvar and Brac, then reportedly under German attack. The object of his mission was to find out on the spot whether the islands in question had actually been occupied by German landing forces and to make contact with staff officers of Tito's Headquarters in charge of the coastal area of Dalmatia, situated on the Island of Hvar.

Owing to exceedingly bad weather, Captain Hamilton's ship stranded and sank during the night of the 24th and 25th of December on the coast of Italy. However, Captain Hamilton managed to get ashore and returned to Bari, from where he proceeded on board another ship on the morning of the 25th.

After an extremely rough crossing, he landed on the Island of Korcula during the night of the 25th and 26th of December and made contact with units of Tito's forces. The island was under German attack. However, in order to acquaint himself with the situation, Captain Hamilton made a reconnaissance tour in a jeep accompanied by a Yugoslav staff officer and two Partisans. During the drive the car was ambushed, and the Yugoslav driver sitting next to Captain Hamilton was killed by enemy gunfire. However, Captain Hamilton and the remaining Partisans managed to shoot their way out of the ambush and escaped with the jeep.

After having ascertained the fact that the Island of Korcula was lost to the enemy, Captain Hamilton escaped with the remnants of the Partisan garrison during the night of the 26th and 27th of December, and after a hazardous sea voyage through waters patrolled by enemy E boats and landing craft, he arrived on the Island of Hvar on the morning of 27 December. He established contact with the Partisan Headquarters and had a six-hour conference with the Partisan staff officers, from whom he collected exact information as to the immediate military situation on the Dalmatian islands as well as on the mainland. The conference took place in the open outside the buildings of the said headquarters which were constantly subjected to enemy attacks from the air including Stuka dive-bombing.

Captain Hamilton remained on the Islands of Hvar and Brac until 30 December, taking an active part in the defense of the islands and the repulsion of a number of German attacks. As the only American in the area, he gave a magnificent account of himself and received the unanimous admiration and respect of the fighting Yugoslavs.

In accordance with his orders which directed him to return to his base in Italy not later than 2400 hours, New Year's Eve, Captain Hamilton boarded a small local vessel on the night of the 30th and 31st of December, again sailed through waters patrolled by enemy naval craft and proceeded to Italy across the open Adriatic through a severe winter storm. Captain Hamilton returned with complete information concerning the situation in the Dalmatian coastal areas, on the basis of which immediate steps were taken to bring aid and relief to the threatened islands. Furthermore, Allied naval operations were initiated without delay and obtained extremely favorable results against German naval craft. Also, Allied air operations were at once undertaken against German occupation forces in Dalmatia, causing the German military operation to come to a temporary standstill.

5. While stationed in Italy at the OSS shipping bases, Captain Hamilton did outstanding work and was for a period of time in command of all operations out of the port of Monopoli, working day and night with his Partisan crews totalling some 400 men, organizing maintenance and repairs of ships, loading cargoes of guns, ammunition, mines, food, clothing and medical supplies, attending to the legion details in connection with the collection of cargoes, transportation, fueling, watering and clearing of the ships, as well as providing for housing and feeding his Yugoslav crews, all under a rigid system insuring the strictest security. Captain Hamilton conducted himself at all times in a manner which commanded the greatest respect from everyone who served with him and which reflected honor to the Allied military forces in the Middle East.

HANS V. IOFFE,
Major, AUS.
(formerly Chief OSS/SC
Shipping Operations
in the Adriatic)

PROPOSED CITATION

John Hamilton, Captain, USMCR, O-22085, (then First Lieutenant) for exceptionally gallant action against an enemy of the United States from 24 December 1943 to 2 January 1944. Captain Hamilton displayed great courage in making hazardous sea voyages, in enemy infested waters, and reconnaissances through enemy held areas, despite ambushes and successfully accomplished his mission. His conduct reflects great credit upon himself and upon the United States Armed Forces.

28 February 1946

SUBJECT: Recommendation for Award of the Silver Star Medal to
Captain John Hamilton, USMCR

TO : The Director, Strategic Services Unit, Washington, D. C.

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HANS V. TOPFE,

Major, AUS.

(formerly Chief OSS/SO
Shipping Operations
in the Adriatic)

DR LEB 33 IR 12

100-61

file
Hamilton

2 May 1946

SUBJECT: Recommendation for the Award of the Silver Star
for Captain John Hamilton, USMCR, O-22085

TO : The Adjutant General
War Department
Washington, D. C.

1. It is recommended that the Silver Star be awarded to Captain John Hamilton, USMCR, O-22085, for exceptionally gallant action against an enemy of the United States from 24 December 1943 to 2 January 1944.

2. This recommendation is based on the records of the Office of Strategic Services and the attached recommendation.

WILLIAM W. QUINN
Colonel, Infantry
Director

Attachment - Recommendation

NOTES

5 March 1946

MEMO TO BOARD OF OFFICERS:

Please note paragraph 1 of inclosed letter addressed to me.

Wayne House

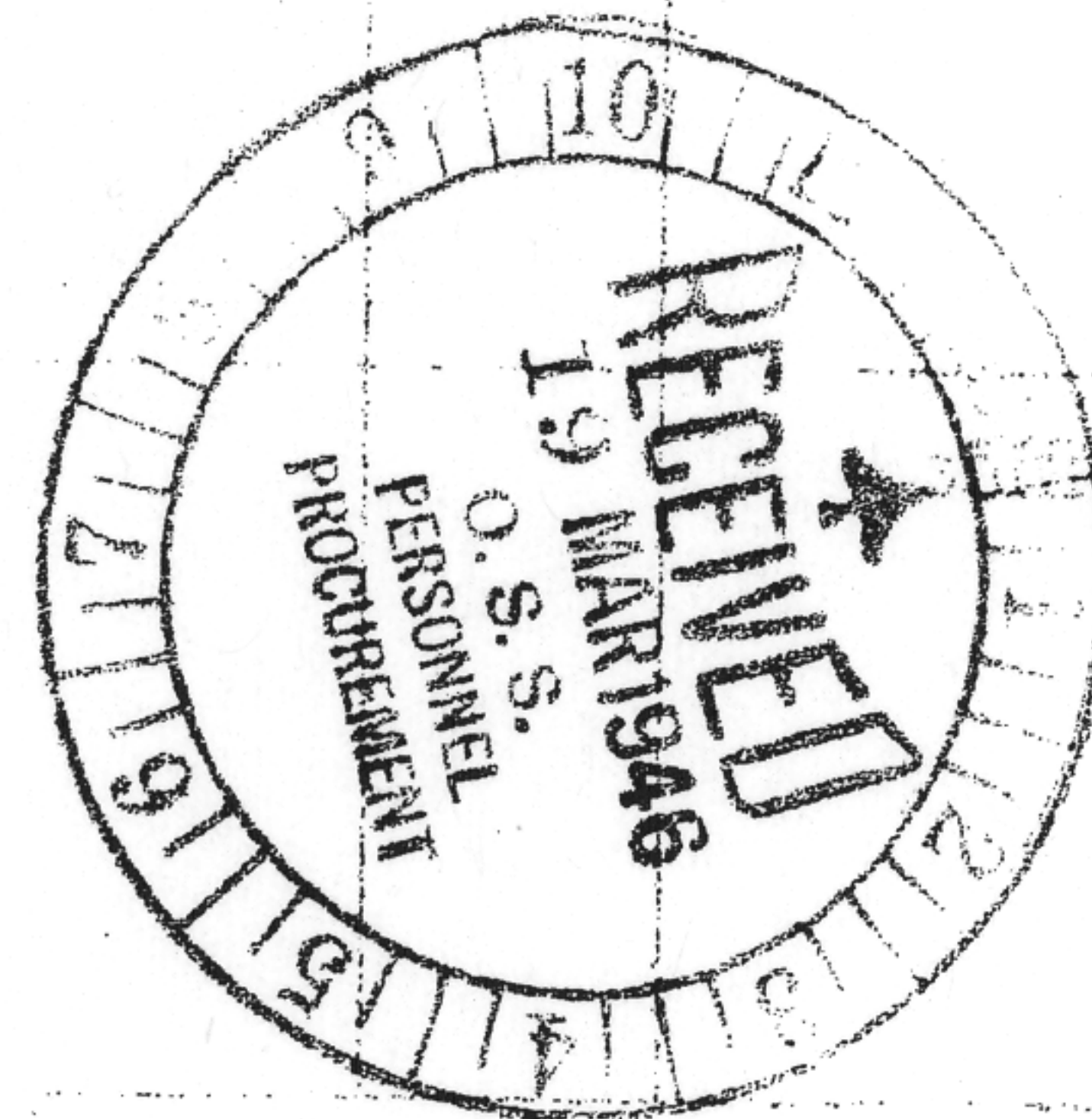
JAYNE HOUSE

Capt., AUS (WAC)

Citations Officer

The Commanding Officer, Naval Command, concurs.

3/3/46 R



WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF WAR
STRATEGIC SERVICES UNIT

25th & E STREETS, N.W.
 WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

ORION

SUBJECT: Recommendation of Award of Silver Star Medal
 to Captain John Hamilton, USMC

TO	DATE	OFFICER'S INITIALS	ACTION DESIRED	ACTION TAKEN (Check one)
1. Branch Chief			1. For consideration	1. Approved 2. Disapproved 3. Alternate Recommendation (See Notes)
2. Board of Officers	17 May 46 21 May 46	<i>John</i>	1. For consideration	1. Approved <i>OK JTB</i> 2. Disapproved 3. Alternate Recommendation x (See Notes)
3. Citations Office			1. Processing	1. Forwarded unchanged 2. Forwarded revised
4. Director's Office (Attn: Adjutant)	<i>John</i>	<i>John</i>	1. For signature ✓	1. Signed 2. Alternate Action (See Notes)
5. Citations Office			1. For processing	1. To the Adjutant General 2. Revised action started

✓ See Reverse Side for NOTES

60
5/16/46

~~RESTRICTED~~

HEADQUARTERS
MEDITERRANEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS
UNITED STATES ARMY
APO 512

GENERAL ORDERS)

NUMBER 145)

31 July 1946

Rescission to General Orders Number 56, 1946	I
Amendment to General Orders Number 73, 1946	II
Award of Silver Star	III
Award of Bronze Star Medal	IV

I -- RESCISSION TO GENERAL ORDERS NUMBER 56, 1946

So much of Section I, General Orders Number 56, this headquarters, 1946, as awards the Bronze Star Medal to MATTHEW COMERFORD SMITH, 022038, Lieutenant Colonel, (then Major), Infantry, is rescinded.

II-- AMENDMENT TO GENERAL ORDERS NUMBER 73, 1946

So much of Section II, General Orders Number 73, this headquarters, 1946, as awards the Legion of Merit to L. HOLMES GINN, JR., 017341, Colonel, is amended to award the Oak Leaf Cluster to Legion of Merit.

III- AWARD OF SILVER STAR

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, as amended, the Silver Star was awarded by the Theater Commander to the officer named below:

JOHN HAMILTON, 022085, Captain, United States Marine Corps Reserve, for gallantry in action in the Mediterranean Theater of Operations from 24 December 1943 to 2 January 1944. Captain Hamilton displayed great courage in making hazardous sea voyages in enemy infested waters, and reconnaissances through enemy held areas. His conduct reflected great credit upon himself and the United States Armed Forces.

IV-- AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, as amended, the Bronze Star Medal was awarded by the Theater Commander to the officer named below:

~~RESTRICTED~~

~~RESTRICTED~~

SA General Orders No. 145 (Cont'd)

SAM F. DOERING, 0409112, First Lieutenant, Corps of Military Police, 206th Military Police Company, for heroic achievement in action in Italy on 7 February 1944. Entered service from Parkston, South Dakota.

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL LEE:

L. C. JAYNES
Major General, United States Army
Chief of Staff

OFFICIAL:

Ralph C. Tilley
RALPH C. TILLEY
Colonel, AGD
Adjutant General

DISTRIBUTION:

Y

1 - each (201 file)

~~RESTRICTED~~

HEADQUARTERS
2677TH REGIMENT SSU (PROV)
APO 512

200.6

6 August 1946

SUBJECT: Award of Silver Star.

TO : Citations Officer
SSU, WD, Wash, DC

Transmitted herewith for your information copies of General Order No. 145, Hq MTOUSA, dated 31 July 1946, announcing the award of the Silver Star Medal to Capt JOHN HAMILTON, 022085, former member of this organization.

FOR THE COMMANDING OFFICER:

Joseph L. Palosky
JOSEPH L. PALOSKY
Captain, AGD
Adjutant

1 Incl:

GO, 145, Hq MTOUSA.

*Wilson Point
Hampshire
Connecticut*

*Ward
CR*

29 August 1946

SUBJECT: Award of the Silver Star Medal to Captain John Hamilton,
USMCR, 022085

TO : The Adjutant General
War Department
Washington, D. C.

1. Attached is an official copy of General Orders No. 145, Headquarters Mediterranean Theater of Operations, dated 31 July 1946, announcing the award of the Silver Star Medal to Captain John Hamilton, USMCR, 022085.

2. Captain Hamilton was recently separated from this unit and returned to his home at Wilson Point, South Norwalk, Connecticut. Since this organization was not able to present subject decoration, it is requested that such presentation be made.

FOR THE DIRECTOR:

ANNA S. LESHER
Citations Officer

1 Incl: GO No. 145, MTO, 31 July 1946